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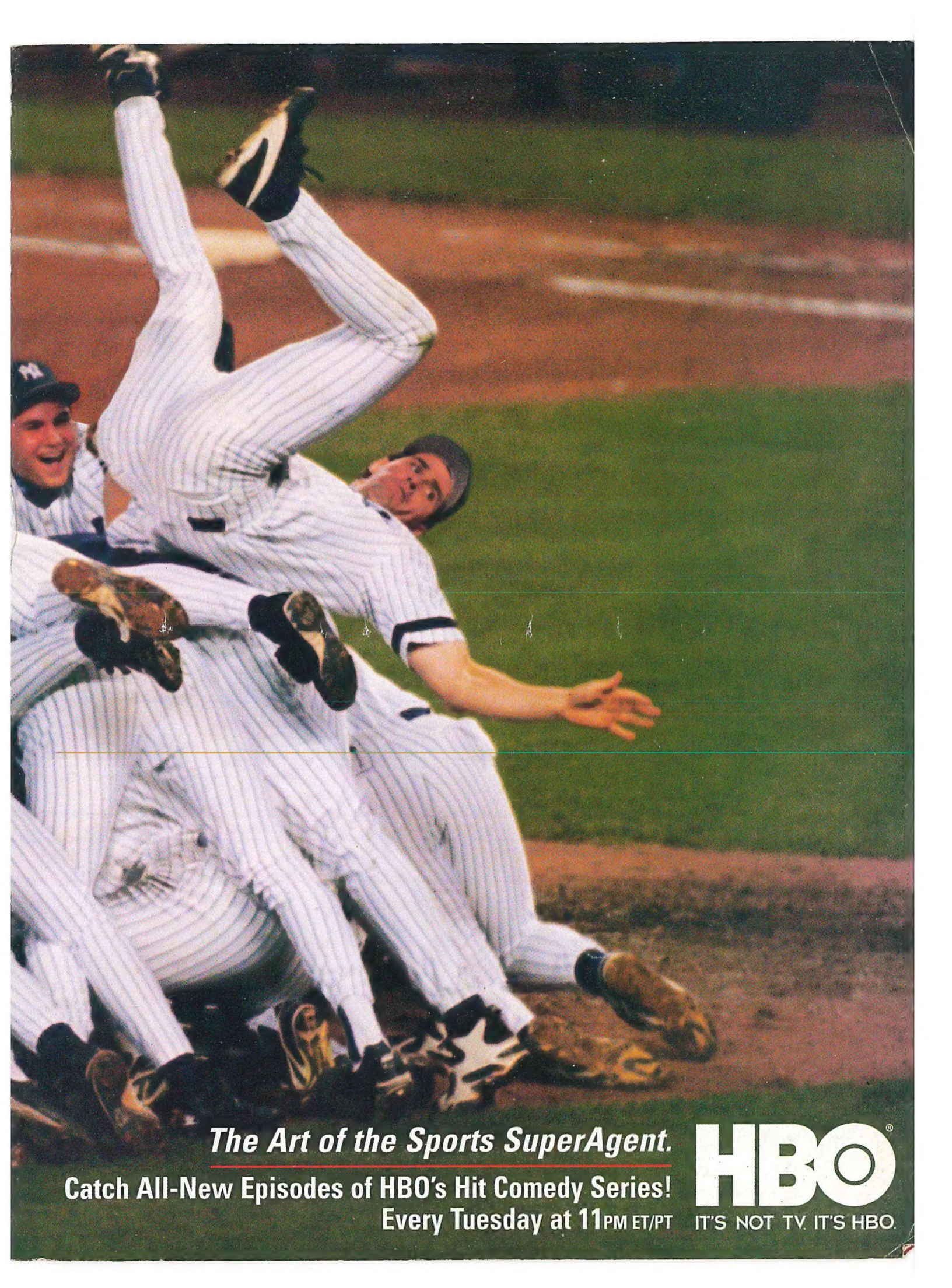


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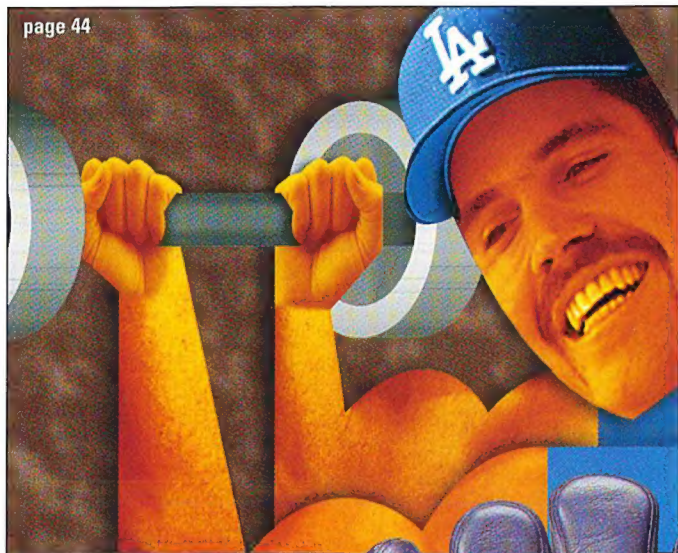
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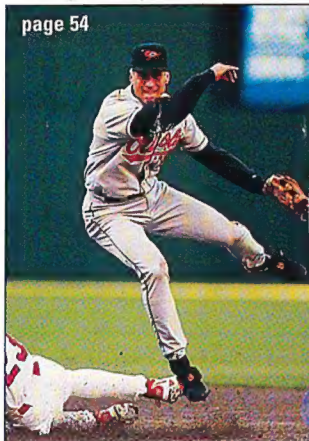
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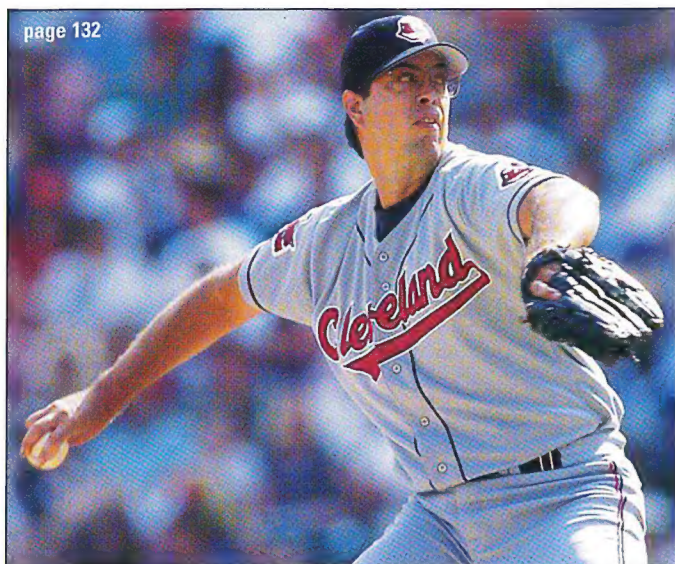
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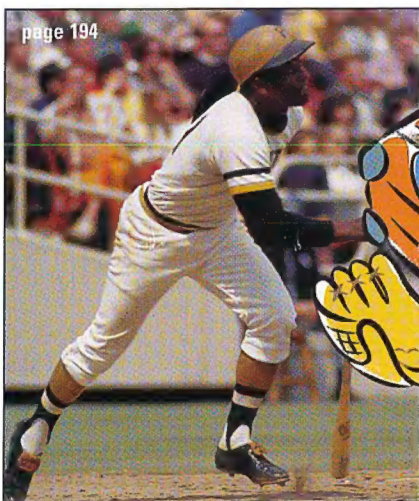
They used to be known as mop-up men. Not quite good enough to start. Not quite good enough to close out a victory. But not anymore. *By Rick Weinberg*

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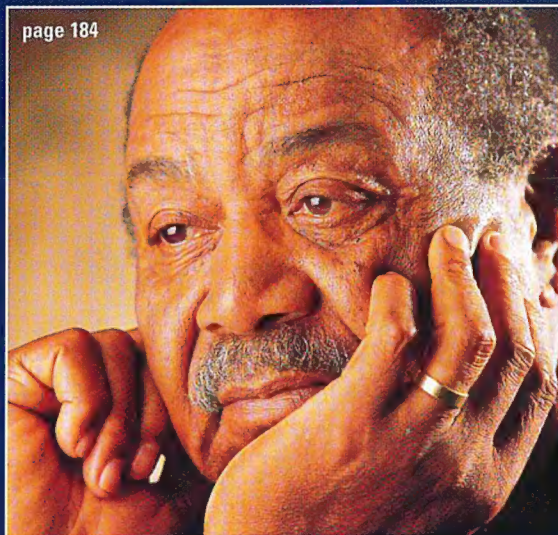
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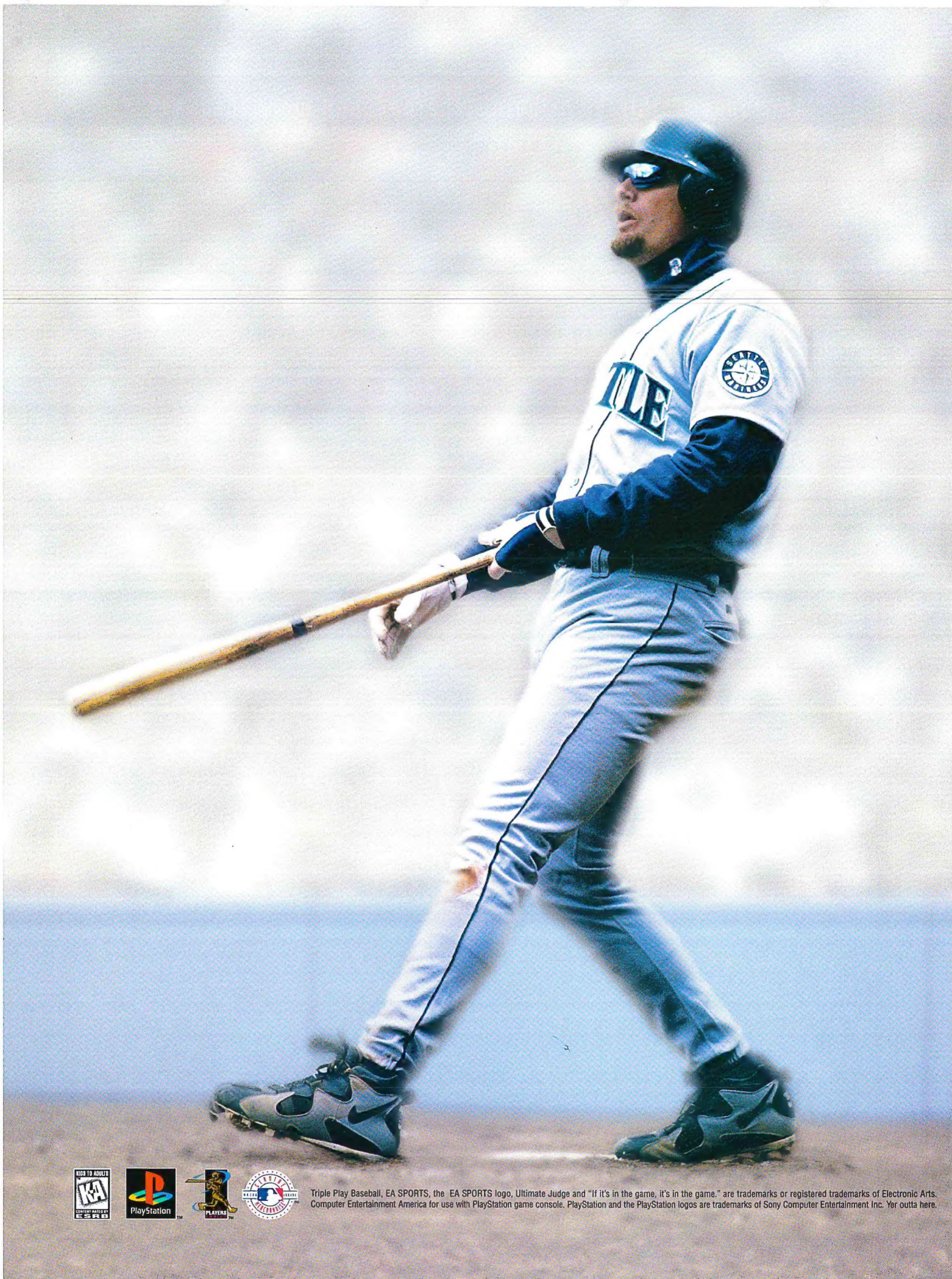
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1997 ALL-STAR GAME

# DIGEST



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and the All-Star Game  
Experience



# Going, Going, Gone!

## Workout Day Features A New Power Contest For Rookies

No All-Star Game experience is complete without one of the biggest side attractions—MCI All-Star Workout Day. Not only will the MCI All-Star Workout Day, which will be held at Jacobs Field on July 7, include the Gillette Home Run Derby and the MCI All-Star Celebrity Softball Game, but rookies will be able to take their hacks this year, too! That's because for the first time, four rookies will com-

pete in a one-round Rookie Home Run Derby for the right to participate in the Gillette All-Star Home Run Derby with the big boys.

Kicking off the day's festivities will be the MCI All-Star Celebrity Softball Game at 11:45 a.m. Some celebrities scheduled to appear include Christina Applegate, John Grisham, Drew Carey, Jonathon Silverman, LeAnn Rimes, Robert Wuhl, Noah Wyle, Dan Cortese and Lou Diamond Phillips.

Both the American and National League All-Stars will take batting practice after the MCI All-Star Celebrity Softball Game. The rookies will lock

up in a battle of the long-ball after batting practice, then it's time for the main event—the Gillette Home Run Derby. In this bash-fest, 10 of the strongest hitters in Major League Baseball will test their knack for sending the ball out of the yard. Last year, Barry Bonds edged his counterpart from across the San Francisco Bay, Mark McGwire. Will McGwire—who hit



**Barry Bonds (above) won last year's home run contest, but Mark McGwire (below left) will try to dethrone him.**

a blast in May off the Jacobs Field scoreboard that would have traveled around 530 feet had it not been stopped—get even this year, or will there be a new home run king altogether? Ken Griffey, Jr. and Larry Walker may have something to say about the outcome. The rules for the contest are simple: every swing is either a home run—or it's an out. A long drive to the warning track is just as fruitless as a slow roller to the pitcher's mound.

All ticket proceeds from the day, expected to top \$1 million, will be donated to charity. Half of the money will be dedicated to build five Larry Doby All-Star Playgrounds at local Cleveland Boys & Girls Clubs, as a legacy to the All-Star Game and retired Indians star Larry Doby. The remaining 50 percent of the proceeds will be donated to national youth-related charities supported year-round by Major League Baseball.

### MCI All-Star Workout Day Schedule:

11:30-11:45 a.m.	Celebrity Softball Introductions
11:45 a.m.-1 p.m.	MCI All-Star Celebrity Softball Game
1:15-2:05 p.m.	American League Batting Practice
2:05-2:55 p.m.	National League Batting Practice
3:00-3:30 p.m.	Gillette Rookie Home Run Derby
3:30-5:00 p.m.	Gillette All-Star Home Run Derby



MLB PHOTOS: PILLING (McGWIRE, BONDS)



# announcers



Bob Brenly



Joe Buck



Tim McCarver

## Television

FOX Sports presents live coverage of its first All-Star Game with the 68th Midsummer Classic on Tuesday, July 8 at 8 p.m. EST from Jacobs Field in Cleveland. MLB on FOX's broadcast team of Joe Buck, Tim McCarver and Bob Brenly call the action, while Chip Caray and Steve Lyons anchor pre- and postgame coverage.

The All-Star Game has a rich and storied history and is traditionally the highest-rated sporting event of the summer and America's top-rated All-Star contest among the four major sports. This year's game will be broadcast on FOX's 202 affiliated stations and is available in approximately 97 million television homes.

## Radio

CBS Radio has been the place for baseball fans to turn for exclusive network radio coverage of Major League Baseball's All-Star Game for 22 consecutive seasons, and this year



Jerry Coleman



John Rooney



Jeff Torborg



Billy Berroa



Jaime Jarrin



Armando Talavera

will be no different. The network will provide both an English and Spanish broadcast of the game. The English coverage will be provided by John Rooney, Jerry Coleman and Jeff Torborg.

Veteran announcers Jaime Jarrin, Billy Berroa and Armando Talavera will handle Spanish coverage of the Midsummer Classic.



## Major League Baseball International



A world TV audience encompassing more than 200 countries will watch the Major League Baseball International broadcast of the 1997 All-Star Game. Utilizing



Julie Croteau

its own production team and facilities, Major League Baseball International will provide baseball fans throughout the world with a live TV feed of the Mid-

summer Classic in 12 different languages. In addition, broadcasters from Japan, Canada, Venezuela

and Mexico will be on site with announce teams to call the game live. Calling the action in English for the world feed will be Julie

Croteau, Gary Thorne and Hall of Famer Joe Morgan.

During the 1997 regular season, Major League Baseball

International transmits 28 games per week to baseball fans around the world, as part of a continuing effort to expand the coverage of Major League Baseball action to international audiences.



Gary Thorne



Joe Morgan



# Five Days Of Baseball Heaven On Earth



Jacobs Field won't be the only place in Cleveland to find Major League excitement during All-Star Week. That's because Pinnacle All-Star FanFest will be at the Cleveland Convention Center from July 4-8 to provide you with the baseball thrill of your life.

Here are just a few of the more than 40 attractions at Pinnacle All-Star FanFest:

**Stars of the Show**—Get FREE autographs from your baseball heroes.

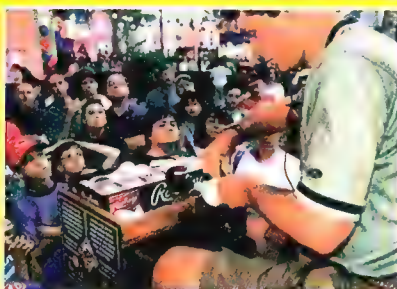
**Diamonds**—Get playing tips and learn about the game from Major League Baseball players and managers.

**Making of the Game**—Learn from artisans exactly how bats, gloves, baseballs and caps are made.

**Spring Training**—Show off your skills in state-of-the-art video batting and pitching cages.

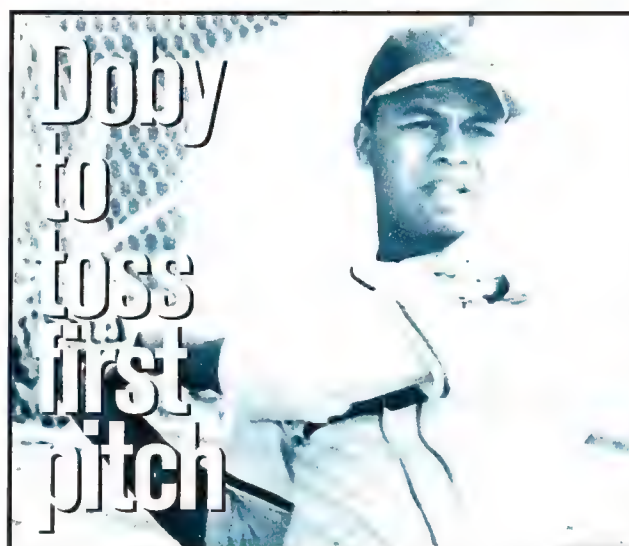
As part of the event, collect the Pinnacle All-Star FanFest limited addition baseball cards for free. A 21-card set featuring current stars—including a special Sandy Alomar card—will be given away at the convention center. You can even make your own baseball card and put your statistics on the back!

All in all, Pinnacle All-Star FanFest is a place where you can experience baseball in ways you've only dreamed about!



## All-Star Vocals

A group of youngsters will be performing prior to this year's All-Star Game. Fourteen-year-old country singer LeAnn Rimes (right) will sing the U.S. National Anthem. Rimes received two 1997 Grammy Awards—"Best New Artist" and "Best Female Country Vocal Performance"—for her hit single "Blue." Performing the Canadian National Anthem will be the McCauley Boys—Randy, 12; Mark, 18; George, 23 and Gary, 25 (below). One of Canada's hottest R&B/Pop Groups, they were nominated for the Juno Award (Canada's equivalent to the Grammy) on the heels of their debut album, "In Another Lifetime."



Throwing out the ceremonial first pitch at the 1997 All-Star Game will be one of the most important men in the history of Cleveland baseball: Larry Doby. Although the world remembers Jackie Robinson, Doby became just as meaningful in the breaking of the color barrier when, on July 5, 1947, as a member of the Cleveland Indians, he became the first African-American to play in the American League, less than three months after Robinson broke in with the Dodgers. Doby hit 253 career home runs and was selected to six All-Star Games during his illustrious career.




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## Suiting Up

For the first time ever, players selected to the 1997 All-Star Game will wear league-specific batting practice jerseys that commemorate their participation in the Midsummer Classic. At Workout Day on July 7, red jerseys will be worn by the American League All-Stars, while blue shirts will be worn by National Leaguers. The micro mesh/tackle twill jerseys will include the players' names and numbers on the back, their team identification on the left sleeve and the Jackie Robinson 50th anniversary patch on the right sleeve. The jerseys, produced by Majestic Athletic, are available at retail.



## The Patch

In addition to new batting practice jerseys, players' caps will also have a new look to commemorate the All-Star Game experience. These special caps, also worn by coaches and umpires, will have the All-Star Game patch emblazoned on the left side of their respective lids. The fitted, 100-percent wool caps, manufactured by New Era Cap Company, will be worn during Workout Day and the All-Star Game, and are available at retail.

## Space Ball

A special occasion calls for a special ball. The official baseball of the 1997 All-Star Game is a regulation ball produced by Rawlings, the official supplier of baseballs to Major League Baseball. This special version, designed just for this year's Midsummer Classic, features the All-Star Game logo, which is inspired by the trademark light fixtures at Jacobs Field. The

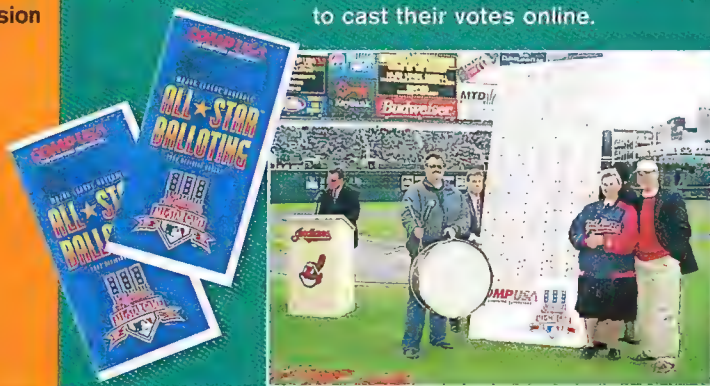
official All-Star Game baseball left the planet with the space shuttle Atlantis for its recent mission on May 15.



## New Twist To Balloting

For the first time ever, the designated hitter was included on the American League ballot this year. That means that a guy like Seattle's Edgar Martinez, one of the best hitters in the game, could be selected by fans as a starter at the position he plays the most—DH.

A pregame ceremony at Jacobs Field—the host site of the 68th All-Star Game—on May 2 opened up 1997 balloting, which was sponsored nationally by CompUSA, Pepsi, 7-Eleven and Footlocker. Major League Baseball's All-Star fan balloting is the largest such program in professional sports and was bigger than ever this year—a total of 65 million ballots were distributed, and fans were also able to cast their votes online.



RAY DIORIO (SHIRTS, BALL, BALLOTS); CLEVELAND INDIANS





Major League Baseball Begins



Federal League Bought Out By American And National Leagues



First All-Star Game Played



Cleveland Hosts Its First All-Star Game



All-Star Game Cancelled Due to WWII



Cleveland Is Site Of All-Star Game And World Series



All-Star Attendance Record Set At Municipal Stadium (72,086)



First All-Star Game Set At Jacobs Field

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# All The Stars

It all starts in the Minor Leagues By LELAND STEIN III



While the best players in the Major Leagues step into the lime-light every July, getting a consistent group of Minor Leaguers together for an All-Star Game is a little tougher. The uniqueness of the Minors is that temporary is good. It would be great for a fan to get to see the same superstars year in and year out, but the fact that a player has moved on usually means that he's gone on to bigger and better things. For example, Ken Griffey Jr. played for the Class A San Bernardino Spirit, and if you happen to attend one of their games, chances are that some long-time fan will still be talking about how he or she saw Griffey blast home run after home run in the California League.

"It's a mixed blessing," says Wayne Teats, the director of media and public relations for the Lake Elsinore Storm. "If you get off to a good start, you can lose a lot of the players that got you in that position. Or, if you're in a battle down the stretch, you can lose one of your stars. But that's what it's all about—seeing a player advance to the next level."

Nevertheless, a number of Minor Leagues hold All-Star Games each year. Here's a look at a few of them.

## Triple-A

"One of the main goals of the players in the Minor Leagues is to be noticed by executives and scouts from the parent organizations," says Jim Ferguson, the media relations director for the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues (NAPBL). "All-Star Games provide a big stage to catch a lot of eyes." One such stage is the Triple-A All-Star Game at Sec Taylor Stadium in Des Moines, Iowa, on July 9.

"One of the things that makes Minor League All-Star Games special is the enthusiasm of the players," Ferguson says. "For most of them, it's the first time that they've had such an experience, and believe me, you don't hear players talking about how they would rather have a couple of days off."

## Double-A

The attitude of the people, organizations and cities that host a Minor League All-Star Game can be summed up by Bryan Beban, the public relations director for the San Antonio Missions, who will host the 1997 Double-A All-Star Game on July 7. "It's tough to get [the game] together because we don't have the budget of the Major Leagues," he says. "We only

have a 16-person staff, but we did a great job of making it the best it can be."

According to Taylor Moore, the president and owner of the Shreveport Captains, who hosted the 1995 Double-A Game, "The Double-A All-Star Game is really nice because we take the best from all three leagues (Eastern, Southern and Texas). There are 28 teams represented and we try to take at least two players from each team. In the selection process we take all the National League affiliates, regardless of league, and place them all on one team that will oppose the American League affiliates in our Double-A All-Star contest."

## Single-A

Each of the five Class A Minor Leagues holds an All-Star Game.

In the Single-A Advanced California/Carolina League All-Star Game played on June 17th at Durham Bulls Athletic Park in Durham, North Carolina, the city used the occasion to show the sports community that it is truly a sports-friendly environment. The Bulls are one of the oldest Minor League franchises in the U.S., and Athletic Park is the largest stadium in the Carolina League, with a comfortable seating capacity of more than 9,000.

Also on June 17th, Lansing, Michigan, and the

Lansing Lugnuts hosted the 1997

Midwest League Single-A All-Star Celebration at 10,000-seat Oldsmobile Park, while the South Atlantic League All-Star Game was hosted by the Augusta GreenJackets in Augusta, Georgia. Lake Olmstead Stadium, which opened in 1995, served as the South Atlantic League's host field.

The Florida State League contest, meanwhile, took place in Kissimmee, Florida on June 21. The Kissimmee Cobras, a Houston Astros affiliate, hosted the game at Osceola County Stadium. And last but not least, the Texas League All-Star Game, hosted by the Shreveport Captains, is scheduled for July 30 at Fair Grounds Field in Shreveport, Louisiana.

The Minor League All-Star Games around the nation are anything but minor, and local fans have the satisfaction of knowing that the young men they support today may very well become the stars of tomorrow.

*Leland Stein is the sports editor of the Black Voice News in Riverside, California.*







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# Baseball Around the World

## Major League Baseball International reaches fans across the globe

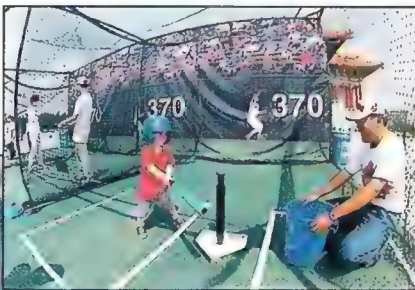
**D**id you know that 19 percent of Major League Baseball's players were born outside of the United States? That's 147 Major League players representing 17 countries.

While many Americans are aware of the highly developed baseball leagues in Latin America (Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Venezuela) and Asia's Pacific Rim (Japan, Taiwan, Korea and Australia), few are aware that baseball is being played in more than 100 countries.

America's pastime is growing—and most of that growth is happening out-

pitching speed, run the bases, or have their own baseball card made.

This year, Baseball Festivals will take place in Birmingham, Brighton, London and Manchester, England; Obenhausen and Frankfurt, Germany; Taipei, Taiwan; Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, Australia; and Tokyo, Japan. Attendance is expected to exceed 500,000.



MLBI reaches fans around the world through Baseball Clinics (left), Baseball Festivals (above and bottom left) and the Pitch, Hit and Run program (bottom right).



side of the United States. Major League Baseball International (MLBI) is working to support growth through its grassroots development programs and broadcasting and sponsorship initiatives. Here are just a few of the highlights:

### Baseball Festivals

Baseball Festivals are interactive fan events designed by MLBI to introduce baseball to new audiences. The Festivals recreate the sights, sounds and smells of the game—visitors are able to take their turn at bat, clock their



### Pitch, Hit and Run

The goal of Pitch, Hit and Run is to teach boys and girls ages 9 to 12 the fundamentals of baseball. The program is designed to put balls and bats into the hands of thousands of school kids who have never experienced the thrill of playing baseball or tee-ball.

After the children receive instruction, the program culminates in a competition for throwing, hitting and baserunning. Winners at the local level have the opportunity to participate in the regional and national competitions.

This year, Pitch, Hit and Run has expanded into seven countries: Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Germany, Puerto Rico, Korea and the United Kingdom. Pitch, Hit and Run will introduce baseball to over one million kids in 1997.



### Envoy Program

The Envoy Program is designed to support developing players and baseball clubs around the world. By sending amateur coaches overseas to teach baseball fundamentals, MLB supports the growth of baseball in many countries. This program is open to players and coaches regardless of age, gender or skill level.

This summer, there are 41 Envoy Coaches teaching in 24 countries around the world. The program has an estimated reach of 200,000.

### European Clinics

During the offseason, Major League managers, coaches and trainers travel to Europe to serve as ambassadors of the game and to share their expertise with advanced international coaches and players.

In 1997, the Clinics were conducted in Germany, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain, Ireland and the Netherlands, and instructors included Terry Collins, Art Howe and Ozzie Smith.



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In fact, go anywhere. With Ken Griffey Jr. Presents Major League Baseball®: Game Boy® Edition, you can play ball no matter where you are. Make diving catches, strike out All-Stars, rob game winning home runs, trade players and build a monster team. All on the only video game system that will actually fit in your average pocket, Game Boy pocket.



**GAME BOY** pocket

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# Heads Up!

## Catchers sport a new look in '97

**T**oronto Blue Jays catcher Charlie O'Brien had a vision. A vision to develop a one-piece helmet that would replace the traditional catcher's gear, or "tools of ignorance," as they're commonly referred to. Last year O'Brien did just that—he came up with the idea for a helmet that would provide a catcher with better vision, and more important, a lot more protection.

"A foul tip off a regular mask hits you flush," O'Brien says. "You see stars for a while. This mask deflects the ball because everything is sloped toward the back. You also won't get hurt if somebody's backswing catches

you on the back of the head."

Inspired by O'Brien's prototype, All-Star Sporting Goods—the Authentic Diamond Collection supplier to all clubs for catcher's gear—worked, with feedback from Major Leaguers, on a new helmet just for baseball catchers. The helmets provide catchers with full one-piece head protection, taking safety into the 21st century. The Maximum Vision & Protection (MVP) catcher's head gear not only allows for significant improvement in visibility, it's also stronger than conventional masks.

More and more catchers around Major League Baseball have switched to the new helmet this season. "I think this is going to catch on with other catchers," O'Brien says. "The vision is better, and when you get hit with the bat or ball, you don't get the brunt of it"

The helmets are available for catchers of all 30 Major League Baseball Clubs—authentic replica and mini helmets are also available at retail—and will incorporate each team's specific colors and logos.



**The new catcher's masks are turning up all over the Major Leagues.**



Brian Johnson



Charlie O'Brien



Jim Leyritz



MLB PHOTOS: VESELY (JOHNSON); PILLING (O'BRIEN, LEYRITZ)



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# Inter-Action!

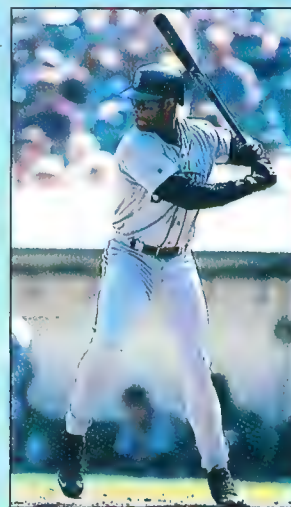
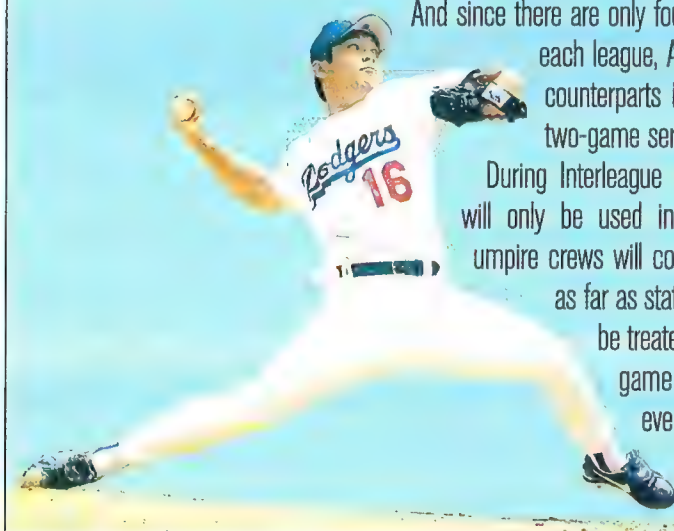
The chance to see Ken Griffey, Jr. facing Hideo Nomo in a regular-season game is finally here. The same goes for the possibility of National League MVP Ken Caminiti coming up to bat against Texas closer John Wetteland. These new and intriguing matchups, and dozens of others, were made possible in the 1997 season by Interleague Play.

Under the new format, American and National League teams have already begun to battle head to head. Interleague Play kicked off on June 12 when Barry Bonds and the San Francisco Giants visited Juan Gonzalez and the Texas Rangers at the Ballpark in Arlington.

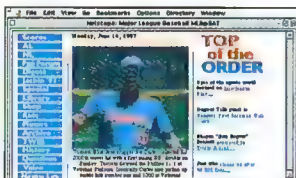
Here's how the Interleague schedule works. All five teams in the American League East play a three-game series against every team in the National League East. Likewise, every team in the AL Central plays three games against all five teams in the NL Central.

And since there are only four teams in the West Division of each league, AL West clubs face each of their counterparts in the NL West four times—one two-game series in each team's ballpark.

During Interleague Play, the designated hitter rule will only be used in American League parks. The umpire crews will come from the home league, and as far as statistics go, Interleague games will be treated exactly the same as any other game on a team's schedule—every home run, every stolen base, every double play and every strikeout will count.



## An All-Star Website



For the latest news every day about the game, check out Major League Baseball's official website, MLB@BAT, at [www.majorleaguebaseball.com](http://www.majorleaguebaseball.com). Coverage of the Midsummer Classic will be just as in-depth as everyday coverage. In fact, during All-Star Week, MLB@BAT will feature live digital photos, audiocasts from press conferences and player interviews, in-progress scores and stats, exclusive interviews, feature stories, games and trivia...not to mention top-to-bottom coverage of Pinnacle All-Star FanFest. Get online and catch the action!



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MLB PHOTOS: GREENE (NOMO); VESELY (GRIFFEY, JR.)





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**S U P P L Y .**



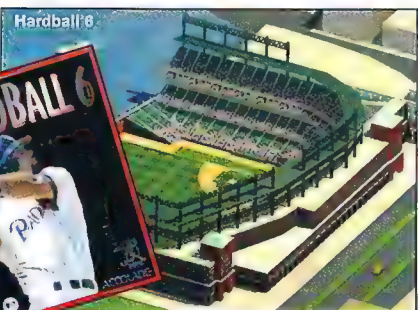
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# A Game-Lover's Paradise

By Jonathon Giannettino

The latest editions of Major League Baseball licensed video games have broken new ground in terms of realism and action. Gone are the days of two-dimensional figures running around in a choppy fashion on the screen. These new games attempt to capture the essence of experiencing a game at the ballpark instead of in your living room. This is accomplished via 3-D modeling, polygonal figures, real physics and ambient soundscapes.

Here are some great new games for 1997:

## Triple Play '98

Publisher: Electronic Arts

Platform: PlayStation,

Windows 95



Always on the cutting edge of technology, EA uses an advanced 3-D environment with motion-captured polygonal players to bring Triple Play '98 that much closer to life. Expansion teams (the Diamondbacks and Devil Rays) are included, and players will notice that signature batting stances and pitching motions are accounted for. Triple Play '98 also boasts the first Two Man Booth for play-by-play and color commentary.

## MLB '98

Publisher: Sony

Platform: PlayStation



MLB '98 utilizes a 3-D game engine with polygonal players and real-time rendering. The overall speed of the game is heightened without sacrificing the strategic elements that are associated with baseball. Motion-captured animations provide backhand stabs, home-plate collisions and over-the-fence catches.

## Microsoft Baseball 3-D

Publisher: Microsoft

Platform: Windows 95

Baseball 3-D provides a realistic and unpredictable game by utilizing real-world physics to determine the path of the baseball. The full 3-D environment provides freedom of movement and unlimited camera angles, and through the use of high-powered accelerators, full 16-bit graphics are supported.

## World Series Baseball '98

Publisher: Sega

Platform: Saturn, Genesis

World Series Baseball '98 provides another volume of excellence in this acclaimed series. It features "off-the-bat" ball tracking, CD quality stadium sound and enhanced commentary that utilizes more than 3,000 new voice combinations.

## All-Star Baseball 1997 Featuring Frank Thomas



Publisher: Acclaim

Platform: PlayStation, Sega Saturn

Players can trade more than 700 Major Leaguers, create their own dream teams, and compete in six modes of play. The game also features statistics-tracking for 27 categories compiled by Stats, Inc.

## Hardball 6

Publisher: Acclaim

Platform: Windows 95

Hardball 6 includes all new motion-captured polygonal players, consecutive-season play with career-stats tracking, and modern and old time stadiums rendered in full 3-D—including the San Francisco Giants' future home, Pac Bell Park.

## VR Baseball '97

Publisher: Interplay

Platform: PlayStation, PC

Realism is heightened with physics models that mimic true flight, bounce and roll for all surfaces, bats and fences. Game players will have over 700 Major League Baseball polygon players that provide smooth, lifelike movements. A real-time scoreboard tracks scores and statistics while a big-screen TV broadcasts live.

## Aaron vs. Ruth

Publisher: Mindscape

Platform: Windows 95, PlayStation

Players may draft from existing rosters or create custom lineups. Custom players can be created to form a unique barnstorming club, and players maintain their mannerisms (such as Joe Morgan's "chicken wing" warmup and Juan Marichal's high leg kick). Stereo sound adds to the experience by amplifying the crack of the bat and the roar of the crowd. Real athletes are used as models in order to get an accurate reproduction of speed and agility.



## major league hits

### Check out these two hot summer movies

A Major League ballpark may pop up where you least expect one this summer—on the big screen. Be sure to check out these summer releases from Columbia TriStar Motion Pictures, which include some of Hollywood's biggest stars—plus a taste of Major League Baseball.

#### Men in Black

They are the best kept secret in the universe. Working for a highly funded, yet unofficial, government agency, "K" (Tommy Lee Jones) and "J" (Will Smith) are the "Men in Black," providers of immigration services and regulators of all things alien on Earth. They are our best, last, and only line of defense when close encounters get ugly. They work in secret and they dress in black. And you'll never guess where a spaceship shows up—at Shea Stadium. From the director of "Get Shorty" and the producers of the box-office smash "Twister" comes the sci-fi adventure-comedy "Men in Black"—protecting the Earth from the scum of the universe.

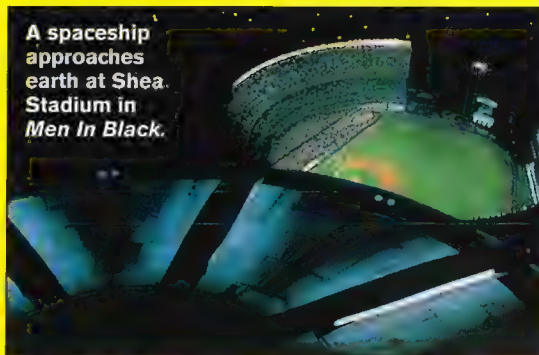


Cameron Diaz (right) and Philip Bosco, who plays her father and the owner of the White Sox, in *My Best Friend's Wedding*.

#### My Best Friend's Wedding

Including scenes from Chicago's Comiskey Park, "My Best Friend's Wedding" is a recently released romantic comedy from TriStar Pictures. Julianne (Julia Roberts) and Michael (Dermot Mulroney) made a pact to marry each other if they haven't found anyone else by the age of 28...and their number has just come up. Since Michael is set to marry someone else, these two friends go from an impossibility to an unimaginable reality. It's the classic tale of a triangle—the boy, the girl and the boy's best friend—in which destiny and tradition are thrown out along with the rice.

A spaceship approaches earth at Shea Stadium in *Men In Black*.



## A Mile High Next Year

The Midsummer Classic will visit Coors Field in 1998



Coors Field hosts the All-Star Game in '98.

season. The ballpark, which opened in

Denver will host its first-ever All-Star Game when the Midsummer Classic comes to Coors Field in 1998. In 1996, Coors Field played host to nearly four million fans during 81 Rockies home dates. The average attendance of 48,037 topped the Major Leagues, and fans turned out for a record 132 straight sellouts through the end of the 1996

1995, will continue its rapid rise in popularity when it hosts the 69th All-Star Game next year.

Ground was broken for Coors Field in 1992. The stadium was originally slated to have 43,800 seats, but club ownership decided to add nearly 7,000 seats because of the Rockies' tremendous attendance figures during their first two seasons of existence at Denver's Mile High Stadium, bringing the park to its current capacity of 50,249.

Coors Field was built on the corner of 20th and Blake—thus the Rockies' "Blake Street Bombers" nickname—in the lower downtown district of Denver. There's a remarkable view of the Rocky Mountains from seats on the first-base and right-field sides.

## Kids Show Their Stuff


Fleer Major League Baseball Diamond Skills is a free program that allows children to feature their batting, fielding and baserunning abilities. All boys and girls ages 7-14 who filled out an entry form obtained from local Park & Recreation facilities will participate in four levels of competition, and the top four winners from each of the four age groups will advance to the National Finals at the All-Star Game.











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**"THE ONLY  
DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN ROBB  
NEN AND I," SAYS  
ATLANTA'S MARK  
WOHLERS, "IS  
THAT THE BRAVES  
ARE ON NATIONAL  
TV. THAT  
DOESN'T HURT!"**

They appear out of nowhere—strange men in strange uniforms, wandering around unfamiliar stadiums on late-night baseball highlight shows. Who are these guys, you ask yourself? *Nen? Jaha? Bottalico?* What's baseball coming to?

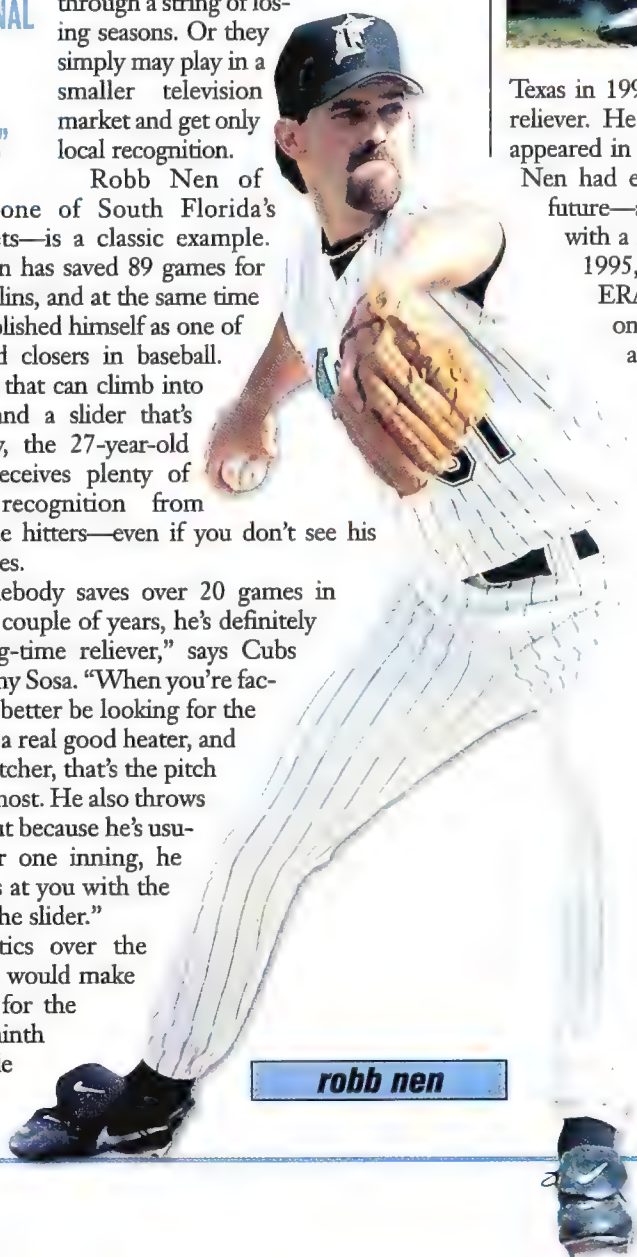
Let's face it—everyone knows who the big names in baseball are. Griffey. Piazza. Maddux. The names and faces of these players and others come to mind just a little less quickly than that shoe-tying thing that you've finally gotten down so well. They're the best that baseball has to offer, year in and year out, and naturally, they get the most recognition.

But there are a handful of real stars out there who for one reason or another go almost unnoticed. Most of the time it's because they're young and simply haven't made a name for themselves. In other cases, the team that's brought them into the Majors has suffered through a string of losing seasons. Or they simply may play in a smaller television market and get only local recognition.

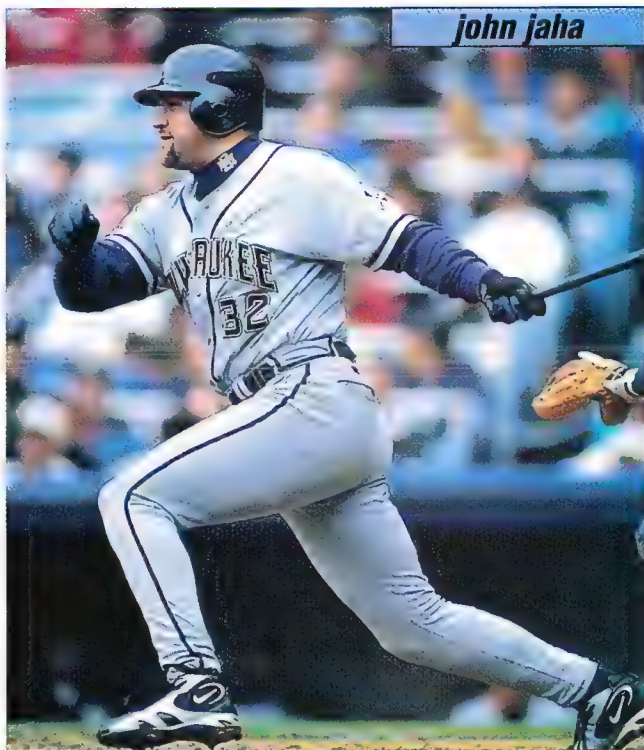
Robb Nen of the Marlins—one of South Florida's best-kept secrets—is a classic example. Since 1993, Nen has saved 89 games for the Florida Marlins, and at the same time has quietly established himself as one of the most feared closers in baseball. Using a fastball that can climb into the high 90s and a slider that's almost as nasty, the 27-year-old Nen already receives plenty of respect and recognition from National League hitters—even if you don't see his name in headlines.

"When somebody saves over 20 games in each of the last couple of years, he's definitely becoming a big-time reliever," says Cubs outfielder Sammy Sosa. "When you're facing Nen, you'd better be looking for the fastball. He has a real good heater, and with a power pitcher, that's the pitch to look for the most. He also throws a good slider, but because he's usually only in for one inning, he normally comes at you with the fastball before the slider."

Nen's statistics over the past three years would make any batter run for the dugout in the ninth inning. He made his way up to the Majors with



**robb nen**



**john jaha**

Texas in 1993 and posted a 6.35 ERA as both a starter and reliever. He was then traded to Florida later in 1993 and appeared in 15 games with the Marlins. By the end of 1994, Nen had established himself as the Marlins closer of the future—and the future was coming fast. He saved 15 games with a 2.95 ERA in 1994, 23 games with a 3.29 ERA in 1995, then exploded with 35 saves and a minuscule 1.95 ERA in 1996. That's enough to earn the respect of one of his fellow closers—the much more recognizable Mark Wohlers of the Atlanta Braves.

When people think of great stoppers, pitchers such as Wohlers, or the Rangers' John Wetteland, or the Cardinals Dennis Eckersley usually come to mind. Why not Nen? "I'm not quite sure," Wohlers says. "There's a class of relief pitchers that's been doing this job year after year—this is only my third year as the closer—and not surprisingly, they get most of the recognition."

"I think Robb Nen and I, and even [San Diego's] Trevor Hoffman are in the same sort of situation right now—we're young guys who are starting to make a name for ourselves. For a long time there were a lot of veteran guys that were doing this job, but over the last few years some good, fresh, young arms have begun to emerge."

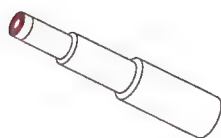
Wohlers admits that exposure has a lot to do with recognition—or the lack thereof. "The only difference between Robb Nen and I—if, in fact, I do get more publicity—is that [the Braves] are on national TV on the superstation, TBS. That certainly doesn't hurt. The job he does and his numbers are very comparable to mine, and in some cases better."

Mets manager Bobby Valentine says the





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## fig.5 Telescoping

Nobody's really sure when the tradition of "telescoping," a.k.a. "barnrolling" or "cradling" or "puttin' on the blinders," began. Diehards in the east'll tell you that it was started in the twenties on the streets of Philadelphia, while others scoff and tell how farmboys on the plains would roll their bills to cut out the glare from the hot sun on Kansas ball fields, long before the century turned. Either way, great fielders agree on the powerful tunnel vision effect that helps to lock down on a blistering grounder or separate the roaring crowds from the towering fly balls as they take you to the fence.

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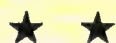




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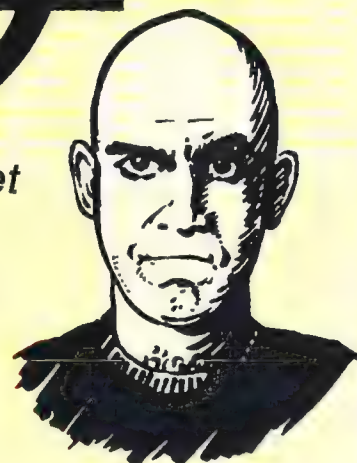
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**"BILLY WAGNER  
HAS A VERY LIVE  
ARM," SAYS  
BOBBY VALENTINE.  
"I THINK THAT HE  
PROBABLY HAS  
THE POTENTIAL TO  
BE A DOMINANT  
CLOSER FOR A  
DECADE."**

popularity of a player can be dictated by a combination of his team's success and the size of the market he plays in—other than that, there's usually no clear-cut reason why one player becomes famous while another remains obscure. "Obviously, you have to be successful to achieve recognition," Valentine says. "But it is possible to have success in a small market. A great example of that would be Kirby Puckett in Minnesota."

Or Billy Wagner in Houston. Wagner is another young National League closer who may be ready to join Wohlers, Nen and Hoffman as the cream of the league's relievers. This left-hander hasn't been in the bigs nearly as long as the other guys—1997, in fact, is his first full season in the Majors—but Wagner has been dominating over the first quarter of this season. "He's a power pitcher," says Valentine. "He has a very live arm, and I think that he probably has the potential to be a dominant closer for a decade."

Wagner's numbers speak for themselves: 12 saves, a 1.80 ERA and only two blown saves through June 15. Of course, as Rockies manager Don Baylor points out, consistency over time separates the great relievers from the rest. "Wagner has been blessed with a fastball, but longevity is the name of the game," he says. "Guys like Terry Forster, Goose Gossage and Lee Smith—they all proved, through years and years of consistently successful pitching, that they weren't just flashes in the pan."

Over in the American League, Detroit's Tony Clark is quietly trying to put that label behind him. The big names that have topped the American League home-run-leaders list over the last few years—names like Mark McGwire, Ken Griffey, Jr. and Albert Belle—take up a lot of newsprint, and with McGwire and Griffey both taking aim at Roger Maris' single-season home run record, the media scrutiny of those two big guns will only increase as the summer wears on.

Clark, on the other hand, is a young power hitter who makes most of his noise for a team that has spent a good part of the last decade below the .500 mark. At the age of 25, the Kansas native is playing in his



**ricky bottalico**

first full season in the Majors, and he's been among the leaders in roundtrippers all year long. After blasting 27 home runs in 100 games in 1996—for you stats freaks, that translates into 43 homers over a 162-game season—Clark has come out of the chute this year with a vengeance, hitting 18 pitches out of the park before June 15. If this young switch-hitter can continue to improve against left-handed pitching—he hit just five homers against southpaws last year—a 40-home run season may come a lot more quickly than many scouts predicted it would—perhaps even in 1997.

"Tony probably hasn't gotten much attention yet only because it's his first full year," says Indians manager Mike Hargrove. "But he's already made a vast improvement over last year, and he's making believers out of all of us—he's a dangerous hitter. Unfortunately, until the [Tigers] become a winner, Tony probably won't get his due."

A few hundred miles west of the Motor City, Sammy Sosa of the Cubs is in a similar position: Hot bat, struggling team. Leave it to an unsung player, however, to give credit to a couple of other unsung players before even mentioning his own exploits. "Two pitchers who have given me a lot of problems when I'm not swinging



**tony clark**



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**MAJORS,**

**PRIMARILY**

**BECAUSE HE**

**THROWS THE BALL**

**ABOUT 5,000 MILES**

**PER HOUR," SAYS**

**MIKE HARGROVE**

the bat real well are Dave Burba of Cincinnati and Ismael Valdes of the Dodgers," says Sosa. "They both have real good stuff and sometimes don't get a lot of credit for it." Then he pauses. "But when I'm swinging the bat well, I feel I can get anybody."

And that's where Sosa fits into this list—he really *can* get anybody. Over the last four years, he's hit baseballs out of Wrigley as consistently as the ivy grows back every spring. But as impressive as Sosa's home run totals from 1993 to 1996 are—33, 25, 36 and 40 home runs, respectively—he's only made the National League All-Star team once, in 1995.

Does it bother him? Hardly. "The only way to get recognition is to put up the numbers, and I feel I've done that over the past couple of years," he says. "I go out and play hard

every day—that's the way I play this game. If I continue to put up the numbers like I have, then the recognition will come."

Sosa says that instead of worrying about things he can't control, he simply lets other people categorize him any way they want to. "One thing that I've always said is that I don't consider myself a superstar," he says. "I consider myself a rookie, and every day I go out there and play as hard as I can, just as if I were a rookie. That way, I'm hungry as a ballplayer in every first inning at the start of every game."

Mark Wohlers says that in addition to the fact that the Cubs are currently in a down cycle, Sosa doesn't get as much recognition as he deserves because he's been surrounded by guys like Ryne Sandberg and Mark Grace, who, as established veterans, tend to get most of the attention. "There's no question that Sammy Sosa is a superstar right now," Wohlers says. "Within baseball, at least, I think he's feared, well-respected and well-recognized. One thing about Sammy is, if you make a mistake, he's going to hit it. You have to commit to a pitch and then make it, because if you leave anything out over the plate, he'll definitely make you pay for it."

**A**lthough American League bullpens are generally dominated by guys who have been closing games for years, including Minnesota's Rick Aguilera, Chicago's Roberto Hernandez, Jose Mesa of the

Indians and Texas stopper John Wetteland, there's a young fireballer currently plying his trade on the left coast who has become quite adept at putting out fires other than the one coming off his pitching arm: Anaheim's Troy Percival. Throwing serious gas has been the ticket to success for this Southern California native, who actually began his college baseball career as a catcher at the University of California at Riverside.

The 27-year-old Percival broke in with the Angels in 1995 and quickly posted a minute 1.95 ERA as a middle reliever. In 1996, he earned the job as the Angels closer and saved 36 games, good for fourth best in the league. Percival isn't quite a household name yet, and he's been slowed by injuries, but he was selected by Mike Hargrove as a relief pitcher for the 1996 American League All-Star team.

"When he's healthy, he's as good as any closer in the Majors—primarily because he throws the ball about 5,000 miles per hour,"

Hargrove says with a laugh. "But it's tough for a

guy to get noticed when the team he plays for doesn't get much national recognition."

Texas outfielder Rusty Greer has gotten a firsthand taste of Percival's repertoire, and he's impressed with what he's seen. "You have to turn it up a notch when you face Troy Percival," says Greer, "because he's coming at you with everything he's got, and he throws very hard. You have to be ready to go in there and battle."

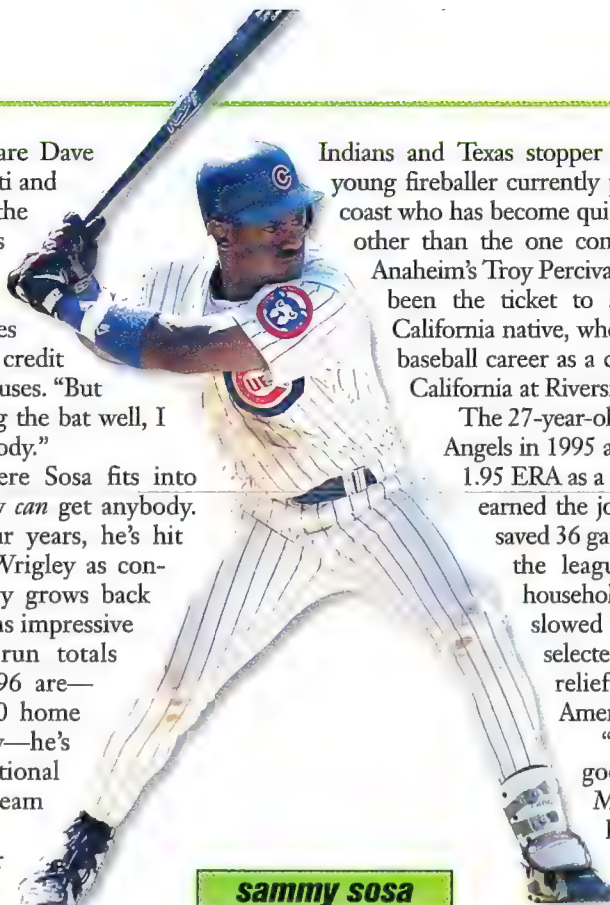
Greer, in fact—along with Milwaukee's John Jaha and Anaheim's Jim Edmonds—is one of a trio of young American League hitters who, like

Percival, have put up impressive numbers with little fanfare. Greer hit a respectable .271 in 1995, then exploded with a .332 average and 100 RBI last year—adding quite a bit of punch to a lineup already graced by the

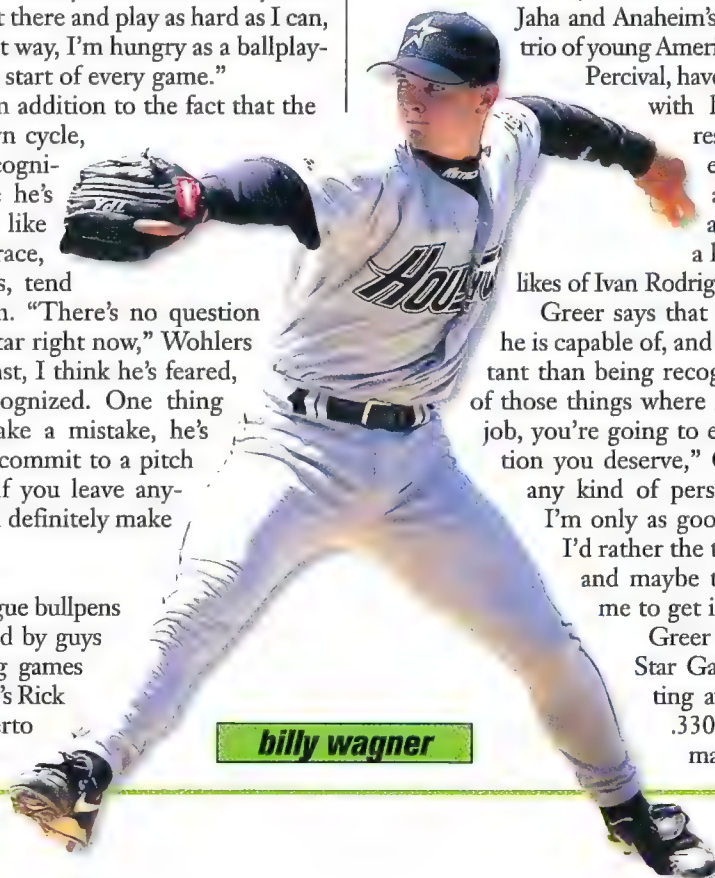
likes of Ivan Rodriguez and Juan Gonzalez.

Greer says that his teammates know what he is capable of, and to him, that's more important than being recognized nationally. "It's one of those things where if you go out and do your job, you're going to eventually get the recognition you deserve," Greer says. "I'm not after any kind of personal recognition, because I'm only as good as the team around me. I'd rather the team go to the Post Season and maybe the World Series than for me to get individual recognition."

Greer wasn't selected to the All-Star Game in 1996 despite a batting average that hovered above .330 into July. "I think that making an All-Star Game is a



**sammy sosa**



**billy wagner**





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**"DAVE BURBA OF THE REDS AND ISMAEL VALDES OF THE DODGERS HAVE GIVEN ME A LOT OF PROBLEMS," SAYS SAMMY SOSA. "THEY BOTH HAVE REAL GOOD STUFF."**

goal of everybody's at some point in their career," Greer says. "But at the same time, if it never happens, I don't think I'll hang my head about it, because there are only so many guys who can go. It's just one of those things where you go out and play the game, and what happens, happens."

Jaha, meanwhile, has quietly become Milwaukee's Big Cheese. After a couple of promising years with the Brewers from 1992 to 1995, the Portland, Oregon, native broke out last year, belting 34 home runs, driving in 118 runs and batting a solid .300. "I don't know how to scout Jaha because we can't get him out," Mike Hargrove says. "He has above-average power to all fields and he's a patient hitter."

Jaha's sterling performance in 1996 came in only his second full season—the first was in 1993, when he hit 19 home runs. He appeared in just 84 games in 1994, then 88 games in 1995 (in which he hit 20 homers) before once again becoming an

everyday player last year. But he's still anything but a household word as far as big league superstars go. "It may not be fair," Hargrove adds, "but the image that the average fan has of a player—even if that player deserves to be noticed—is based a lot on the success of the team."

Edmonds, meanwhile, was selected to the 1995 All-Star Game, but he remains almost as unnoticed as Jaha and Greer. The 27-year-old Angels outfielder batted .290 with 33 homers and 107 RBI in 1995, his first season as an everyday player. Two stints on the disabled list slowed Edmonds in 1996, but he still finished with a .304 average and 27 homers in 114 games.

While many players in the big leagues fight the battle of playing for a team that's either struggling in the standings or doesn't get much TV exposure, Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder Al Martin has had to contend with both obstacles. Martin—whose father, Rod, played 12 seasons for the NFL Raiders—appeared headed for a career with the pigskin after attending USC on a football scholarship. But the 30-year-old California native opted for baseball, and the decision has paid off—Martin entered this season as a career .288 hitter (including an even .300 mark, 18 HR and 72 RBI in 1996), and has made a commitment to stay with the Pirates. As Martin explains, his decision was simple. "Pittsburgh gave me the opportunity to become a Major Leaguer—they gave me the life that I have."

Martin says he believes that the size of the team's market is the

**jim edmonds**



biggest factor in a player's recognition. "It's nice to be known nationally," he says, "but the important thing to me is that my teammates and other players and managers in the league respect me as a Major League player and as a person."

Although Martin dodges the national spotlight, at least one team, the Braves—the organization that

Martin started his career with—has plenty of respect for the young slugger. "I don't underestimate Al Martin, because I don't think we've ever gotten him out," jokes Wohlers. "Maybe he has an incentive to do well against us because he's a former Brave, but it seems like he's always had success against us."

Three other National Leaguers who haven't reached the spotlight yet are Brian Jordan of the Cardinals, Vinny Castilla of the Rockies and Philadelphia's Ricky Bottalico. Jordan, the only one of the three who hasn't appeared in an All-Star Game, batted .310 last year with 104 RBI and is known as one of the best all-around players in the league. "He's a burgeoning superstar—a definite five-tool player," says Bobby Valentine. "He'll be in an All-Star Game at some point for sure."

After back-to-back solid years at the plate, Castilla is quickly proving that he's one of the most productive hitters around. The 30-year-old native of Oaxaca, Mexico, rolled up a .309 average, 32 HR and 90 RBI in 1995, then followed that up with a .304 average, 40 HR and 113 RBI last year. "Vinny has a home run swing and he plays in a home run park, but he's got to



**troy percival**

MLB PHOTOS: PILLING (SOSA); WACHTER (PERCIVAL); REID (EDMONDS)



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stay consistent to be considered one of the best," says Don Baylor. "Guys like Fred McGriff or Joe Carter, who hit 30 homers every year for 10 or 12 years—those are good examples of legitimate power hitters."

Bottalico is yet another young National League closer on the rise. In his first season as the Phillies stopper in 1996, Bottalico saved 34 games, thanks mostly to a fastball that consistently flirts with 100 mph. He also pitched a hitless inning with one strikeout in last year's All-Star Game. "Bottalico has a good fastball and his curve ball is a flat out nasty hammer," Martin says. "Guys like Wohlers and Wetteland have earned their respect and they've played on great teams. But Nen and Bottalico are right behind them—they're certainly making a name for themselves now."

Depending on how many people you talk to, this list of "unsung heroes" can get surprisingly long. Bobby Valentine, for example, suddenly interrupts his discussion of another player as three National Leaguers that he's forgotten come to mind: Ray Lankford of the Cardinals, Craig Biggio of Houston and Steve Finley of the Padres. "Lankford can do it all in the outfield," Valentine says. "I know Biggio has already been an All-Star, but a lot of people don't really know how hard he plays the game. And Steve Finley is one of the best all-around players in the big leagues today."

Other players of note include Kansas City's Jeff King, who reached the 30-home run plateau for the first time in 1996, and Marty Cordova of the Twins,



**"PAUL MOLITOR**

**AND ROBIN**

**YOUNT BOTH**

**PLAYED IN SMALL**

**MARKETS," SAYS**

**ROCKIES MANAGER**

**DON BAYLOR.**

**"BUT THEY BOTH**

**CONSISTENTLY**

**GOT HITS, TOO."**

who won American League Rookie of the Year honors in 1995, then had an even better 1996 with a .309 average and 111 RBI. Oakland's Geronimo Berroa, meanwhile, has seen his power numbers climb steadily in the past three years—13 HR in 1994, 22 in 1995 and 36 in 1996—despite playing in the shadow of one of the greatest long-ball threats in the game, Mark McGwire.

Don Baylor says a team's success is usually the biggest factor between one player who gets recognition and another who doesn't—unless the player is a special talent. "Paul Molitor and Robin Yount—they both played in small markets," Baylor says. "But they both consistently got hits, too." The Brewers also went to the 1982 World Series with Molitor and Yount, so the pair naturally got their share of publicity.

The only difference that the market really makes, Baylor says, is if you play in either New York or Los Angeles. "A good example is Maris and Mantle, who got way more publicity than Hank Aaron did while he was in Milwaukee," he explains.

"I've found that team success plays a larger role in a player's national recognition than the size of the market," says Mike Hargrove. "At least that's been the case for players here in Cleveland—as the team became more successful, the players became more recognized. But at the same time, you can argue that a small market makes it a bigger challenge for players. It's almost a chicken-and-egg kind of question—it can go on and on." ★



**al martin**



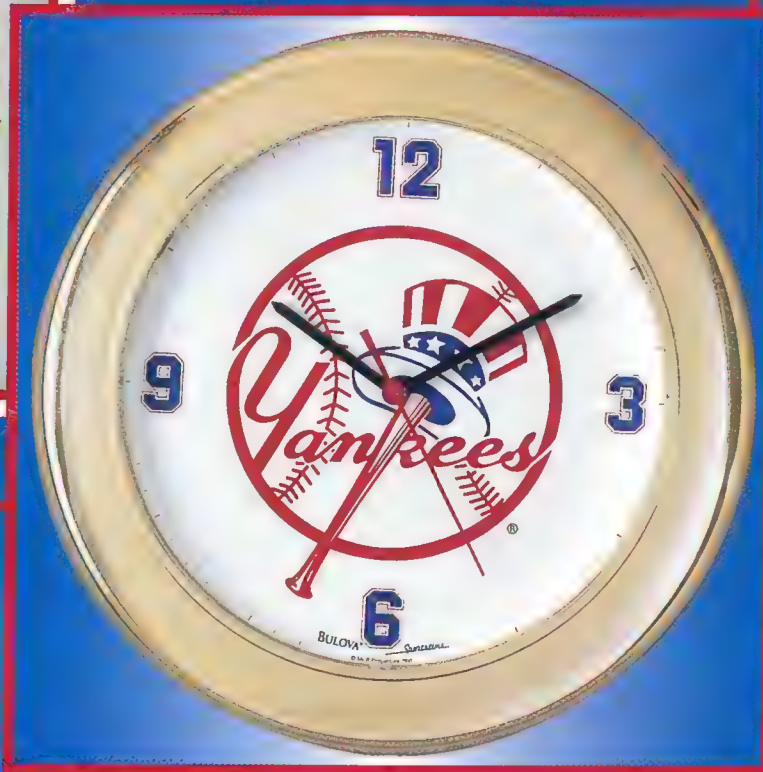
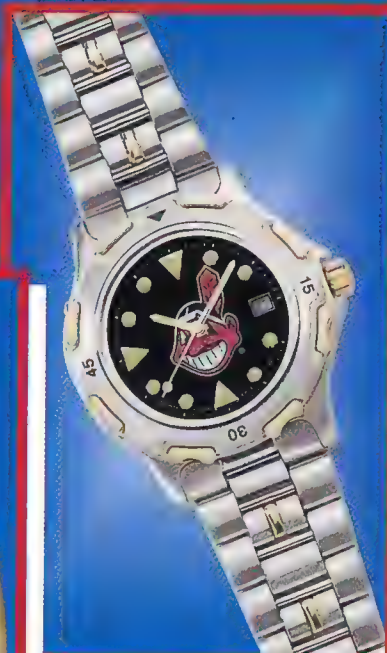
**rusty greer**



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**So weightlifting and baseball don't go together, eh? Don't try to tell that to today's Major League musclemen.**

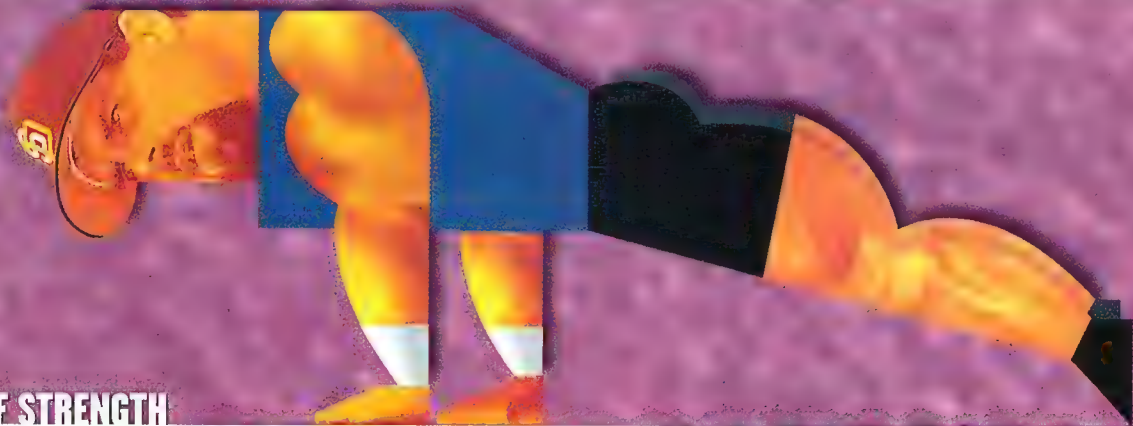
On a rainy Saturday evening in April, nearly four hours after the Philadelphia Phillies game with the San Diego Padres has been postponed, Mike Lieberthal still cannot find an open spot in the Veterans Stadium weight room.

"The place is full of Padres," the Phils catcher says, shaking his head and slumping on a clubhouse couch. "They must have the whole team in there."

# A SHOW OF STRENGTH

By Pete Williams





## A SHOW OF STRENGTH

A few weeks later, the Oakland Athletics arrive in Baltimore sometime after 1 a.m., following a late game the previous evening in Cleveland. But that doesn't keep a large group of players from meeting strength and conditioning coach Bob Alejo in the hotel lobby later that morning for a quick field trip to a nearby health club for weight work. "It would be easy to make excuses," A's outfielder Jason Giambi says later. "But nobody wants to break training."

Indeed, baseball is a weighty profession these days. Once considered taboo, weightlifting and strength training have become integral parts of the daily routines of many players. Sometimes, in fact, it can be difficult to tell if the game is populated by players who lift weights or by weightlifters who happen to play baseball. Says Indians first baseman Jim Thome: "It's become as important as taking batting practice and ground balls."

During the A's series in Cleveland, Mark McGwire pounded a 485-foot shot off the scoreboard in Jacobs Field. When reporters gathered around McGwire's locker stall afterward, the normally-accessible, 255-pound first baseman looked up at the clock and shook his head impatiently. "Gotta lift," he said.

Everyone, it seems, has started to catch the weightlifting bug. Even Orioles ironman Cal Ripken, who for years held the conventional view that pumping iron led to too much bulk and inflexibility, began lifting in earnest after he saw how much it helped teammate Brady Anderson, a long-time bodybuilder and cross-trainer, last season. Other Major Leaguers, such as McGwire, Los Angeles

Dodgers catcher Mike Piazza and outfielder Paul O'Neill of the New York Yankees have endorsed nutritional and bodybuilding supplements. It's gotten to the point where Anderson and St. Louis Cardinals outfielder Ron Gant are routinely asked to pose shirtless for posters and magazine covers.

"My goal is always to be able to walk to the shower with my clothes off and feel good about myself," says Phillies veteran Rex Hudler, one of baseball's better conditioned players. "With the money in this game, you have to take care of yourself or you'll

any faster," says Sheffield. "I really just wanted to feel good about myself. The lifting was more for better flexibility and endurance."

Whatever the reasons for all of this lifting—and they range from the purely cosmetic to a desire for greater strength, endurance and confidence—there's no question that weight training has had an impact on the game. At a time when numerous explanations have been offered for the game's recent offensive surge—everything from juiced balls to the newer ballparks that are tailor-made for home runs to the watered-down pitching theory—perhaps we're missing the obvious reason.

"Today's players are bigger, stronger and faster than ever before," says Oakland A's manager Art Howe. "You have second basemen and shortstops with power and just about every leadoff hitter in baseball has the power to hurt you. You can talk a lot about why this is all happening, but a lot of it has to do with conditioning programs and the strength of the players."

Atlanta Braves lefthander Tom Glavine agrees. "Guys are keeping themselves stronger and healthier over the course of the year," Glavine says. "If you're stronger, you're naturally going to have a chance to hit more home runs, and balls that normally would have been nothing but long outs are going out."

As recently as 1984, few players lifted weights. The A's were considered pioneers that year when they carved out some space in the Oakland Coliseum for a weight room. Today, ballparks are designed with workout facilities as a top priority—by and large, the era of the John Kruk physique is over. Says Texas Rangers designated

**"Players are bigger, stronger and faster than ever before," says Oakland manager Art Howe. "You have second basemen and shortstops with power, and just about every leadoff hitter can hurt you."**

be gone. Maybe we have to work out harder than the old-timers, but most guys would give anything to have a job where you have to lift weights three hours a day."

It's no coincidence that some players have started to look a lot like bodybuilders. San Diego Padres third baseman Ken Caminiti recently hired a personal trainer and nutritionist who often accompanies him on the road. Florida Marlins outfielder Gary Sheffield spent eight weeks last off-season training in Atlanta with Lee Haney, the owner of eight Mr. Olympia titles. "Lifting weights can't make you hit more home runs or run



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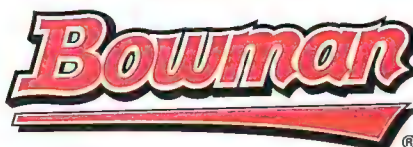
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hitter Mickey Tettleton, who trains in ultra-modern facilities at The Ballpark in Arlington: "There are probably some NFL teams that would like to have our weight room."

Twenty years ago, many people in and out of baseball thought that lifting could cause injuries and shorten careers. At the very least, the thinking went, it surely made players too muscle-bound and immobile to turn on pitches. "There was no place for weights in baseball," says Cardinals coach Dave McKay, one of baseball's first avid weightlifters as an infielder for the Twins, Blue Jays and A's between 1975 and '82. "I was always the black sheep on the team."

These days, every club has a strength and conditioning program, and lifting has begun to consume clubhouses such as the A's, Dodgers and Rangers. "Sometimes I walk onto the field and feel like we're playing the Kansas City Chiefs," says Padres outfielder Tony Gwynn.

Caminiti, who never hit more than 18 home runs in a season before belting 26 in '95 and then 40 last season, looks like he might be able to play in the NFL himself. A recovering alcoholic who says he has substituted a positive addiction—working out—for booze, last year's National League Most Valuable Player feels that there is a direct relationship between his increased level of fitness and his improved performance on the field. "I went from being a complete party animal to a conditioning freak," he says. "And I know that I've become a lot better ballplayer because of it."

One easy way to quantify the effect that weightlifting has had on the game is to simply look at last year's offensive leaderboards.

In the American League, McGwire hit a

**These days, weightlifting has begun to consume many clubhouses around the Major Leagues. "Sometimes I walk onto the field and feel like we're playing the Kansas City Chiefs," says Tony Gwynn.**

career-high 52 home runs, and he might well have challenged Roger Maris' single-season mark of 61 had various injuries not limited him to 130 games. Baltimore's Anderson, meanwhile, hit 50 home runs—a whopping 29 more than his previous high.

There's definitely strength in those numbers. Both players are among the game's most dedicated weightlifters. Anderson, who posed for a beefcake poster that sells at the souvenir stands at Camden Yards, says he so enjoys the endorphin rush that he gets from bodybuilding and cross-training that, much like Caminiti, he likens fitness to an addiction.

"It's fun," says Anderson, who is a chiseled 195 pounds. "It's something that I've always done. When I was struggling during my first couple of years in the Majors, no one gave me any credit for working out. But now that I've hit 50 home runs, everyone wants to know what I do. The key to my success is that there's never been a time in my life, barring injury, where I've been out of shape. I've never had to start over and say, 'Okay, it's time to get in shape now.'"

"There's really no magic to it. You have to lift heavy and you have to lift hard and you have to be consistent. Your body only improves slowly over time. It's not like a month; it's more like 10 years. But if you make tiny improvements, over time you'll eventually see a big improvement."

McGwire, who is widely regarded as the strongest player in the Major Leagues, hit four home runs early this season that traveled at least 450 feet. For his part, McGwire says

that it's hard to say how much weightlifting has improved his power over the years; after all, he hit 49 home runs as a rookie in 1987, long before he became a year-round lifter in '91. "Lifting is just something that I like to do," he says. "I really don't know how much it's helped my game. I think that that comes more from hard work, not weightlifting. But it certainly helps your confidence. When you look good, you just feel better about yourself."

"Mac actually enjoys lifting," says ex-teammate and current Minnesota Twins catcher Terry Steinbach, who says his own power surge last year was due more to consistent play than weight training. "Most guys don't, but they realize they have to do it."

McGwire suggests that anyone making a run at Maris' record would need to maintain their strength during the second half of the year and, indeed, many fitness programs are geared as much toward endurance as they are toward muscle growth. Many players add extra muscle in the offseason, figuring that they'll lose it over six grueling months of travel and irregular eating. "It helps late in the year," says Tettleton. "When you feel sluggish, it makes you feel like you have a little left in your gas tank."

Not everyone believes in weight work, however. Some point to injury-prone stars such as McGwire and Rangers slugger Juan Gonzalez, who dropped 20 pounds two offseasons ago after experiencing back problems, and suggest that too much muscle can be a detriment in a sport that demands quick movement and flexibility. "It can be overdone, just like anything else," says Cleveland manager



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Caminiti fought through numerous injuries last year, including a torn rotator cuff. But he maintains that weightlifting and his overall fitness level helped him complete the year and return from off-season surgery quickly. "The way I throw my body around out there, it's important," Caminiti says. "Yes, it can hurt you if you overdo it. But it won't hurt you if you follow someone who knows what he's doing, like a personal trainer or the guy the team hires."

Others aren't quite as convinced. Seattle's Ken Griffey Jr., the player perhaps most likely to make a run at Maris, eschews lifting in favor of a program that emphasizes flexibility and leg strength. "I know what I have to do, and that's stay flexible," he wrote in his recent book, *Griffey on Griffey*. "It doesn't matter how strong you are[—]if you can only move seven inches either way, then you're not going to hit the ball out of the ballpark. Now if you can move 35 [inches], then you're going to have the proper leverage and quickness to knock the ball out of the ballpark....I probably only bench press about 200 pounds, but I focus on keeping myself as flexible as possible."

Braves slugger Fred McGriff, who has hit more than 300 home runs over the last decade, says that his lifting regimen consists of little more than light work with Nautilus equipment in the offseason. McGriff says that he owes much of his natural strength to working as a vendor at Tampa Stadium as a kid, where he spent many of his days hoisting crates of Cokes through the grandstands.

"You see a lot of guys get injured after bulking up too much," McGriff

says. "In order to keep a smooth swing, you really have to stay loose and limber.

Sure, it's great to look like Arnold Schwarzenegger, but it's pretty tough to hit a baseball when you're that muscular and thick."

Twins general manager Terry Ryan points to his club's 1987 and 1991 World Series championships as examples of teams that got by with little weight work. "We didn't have the facilities then, and we still don't compared to a lot of teams. But look at Kent Hrbek, Gary Gaetti and Kirby Puckett. They were just naturally strong guys."

But of course, not everyone has such natural power, and baseball no longer seems to produce the kind of player who can summon the raw strength of, say, a Babe Ruth or a Mickey Mantle. Says Hudler, "It just doesn't seem like we have as many Steve Balboni types anymore."

Of course, guys like Ruth and Mantle would probably feel out of place in an era when players routinely stay up late after games to lift something other than food and drink. With so much emphasis placed on strength and conditioning, it's easy to forget that it's still a relatively new phenomenon. Many people credit the start of the fitness craze to the A's and Tony La Russa, who upon arriving in Oakland in 1986 found McKay and a couple of the players gathering in hotel lobbies at 10 a.m. to head out to local gyms. La Russa was impressed by the commitment and the results, and he eventually added conditioning to McKay's coaching responsibilities.

By winning four division titles between 1988 and 1992, La Russa's A's

became a forearm-bashing, swaggering advertisement for weightlifting. And by the time La Russa left Oakland after the '95 season, the A's and just about every other team had hired full-time professionals to assist trainers and team physicians with strength and conditioning programs.

"You always heard that guys were going to hurt themselves lifting," says McKay, now the Cardinals first base coach. "But we made three World Series appearances. Now, [lifting] isn't the reason why, but when you win, other teams want to know what you're doing differently."

**T**hese days, weight training is only a small part of complex conditioning programs that employ the most modern techniques. The Indians, who at Jacobs Field are blessed with perhaps the nicest workout facilities in baseball, were the first team to use large rubber "flex bands" to help stretch hamstrings. And during Spring Training, several Rangers ran through the outfield wearing parachute-like devices designed to help build leg strength.

"We want strength that is functional," says Fernando Montes, the strength and conditioning coach for the Indians. "Football players lift for bulk, but we target the power zone: the legs, trunk, back and torso. We're working to build quickness, agility, balance, strength and explosiveness."

The results of such programs can be seen in players like Yankees outfielder Bernie Williams, who believes that he's found the happy medium with a strength and agility program that accentuates the development of the thighs and torso. Never considered a power hitter, Williams' home run

**Fred McGriff says that he owes much of his natural strength to working as a vendor at Tampa Stadium as a kid, where he spent many of his days hoisting crates of Cokes through the grandstands.**



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**"There are times when you get fooled on pitches and you can't use your legs," says Oakland's Jason Giambi. "You have to rely on your upper-body strength to rip it over the infielder's head."**

totals have steadily risen, from 12 in 1994 to 18 in '95 to 29 last year.

"It really doesn't make any sense to get stronger if you're not flexible," Williams says. "A lot of the success that I've had has come from getting to know the pitchers and from experience, but I also know that weights have helped. Balls that I might have just hit back to the pitcher a couple of years ago now go over the infield a lot more often, and balls that used to go to the warning track now go out."

"It's just a confidence thing," says the A's Giambi. "There are times when you get fooled on pitches and can't use your legs. You have to rely on your upper-body strength to rip it over the infielder's head."

Players say it's wrong to assume that they lift like high school football players, who are always looking to "max-out" in the bench-press and squats. McGwire says that he has no idea how much he can bench press, since his program, like many used in the Major Leagues, emphasizes high repetitions with lighter weights. Dodgers first baseman Eric Karros, who's a solid

6-foot-4, 222 pounds, agrees. "Our weight training is very baseball specific. I don't bench press at all, but I do do a lot of back and leg work."

**W**ith such a large emphasis on fitness, many Major League teams have been forced to overhaul their nutritional programs. No longer do practical jokers jump onto birthday cakes in clubhouses, if only because fewer sweets and fatty foods are provided on post-game spreads. But players still face the formidable challenge of staying in shape on a schedule that often requires the heaviest meal of the day to be eaten near midnight.

"People just don't realize how important your diet is," says Mike Piazza, who is considered by many to be the strongest player in the National League. "The most important drug that you'll ever come in contact with is food. You have to eat the right foods at the right time, and then exercise on top of that. There's really no excuse for not being in the shape that you want to be in, but most people aren't

disciplined. And as you get older, it just gets tougher."

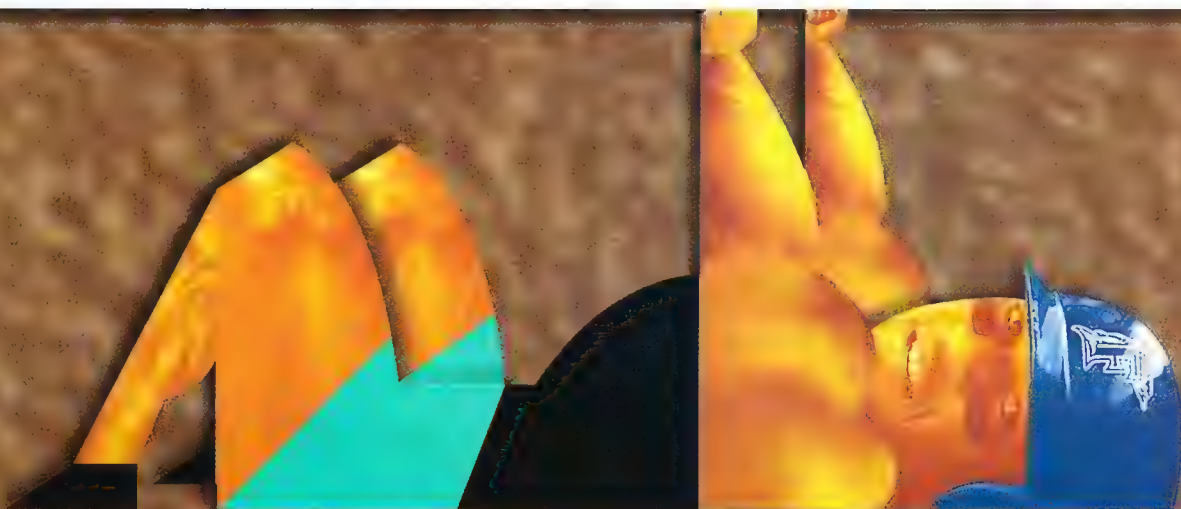
To keep their nutritional needs balanced, many players have begun to turn to high-protein and carbohydrate drinks, as well as to creatine, a popular over-the-counter powdered mix that stimulates muscle growth and weight gain. The Cardinals take two blenders on the road, along with products with such manly names as Lean Gainer, MetMax and Power Creatine. Players say there's no secret formula in these brightly-colored canisters; they just supplement strong programs of fitness and health already in place.

"The thing is, you can take supplements and have the perfect diet," says Anderson. "But none of that matters if you don't train hard."

The architects who have been commissioned to design new ballparks for Seattle, Milwaukee and San Francisco have spent time examining the workout facilities at Jacobs Field and at Oriole Park at Camden Yards. Just like mid-level suites, interactive exhibits and wide concourses, state-of-the-art workout facilities are a must in any new stadium.

"The game has really changed," says veteran Dodgers outfielder Brett Butler, 40, who was an avid fitness buff even before cancer surgery last summer necessitated that he undertake an even more rigorous training program. "I know for sure that conditioning has added three or four years to my career, and rookies coming up to the Majors these days know that they have to work hard on the field and in the weight room just to keep up." ★

*Pete Williams is a writer and columnist for USA Today Baseball Weekly.*





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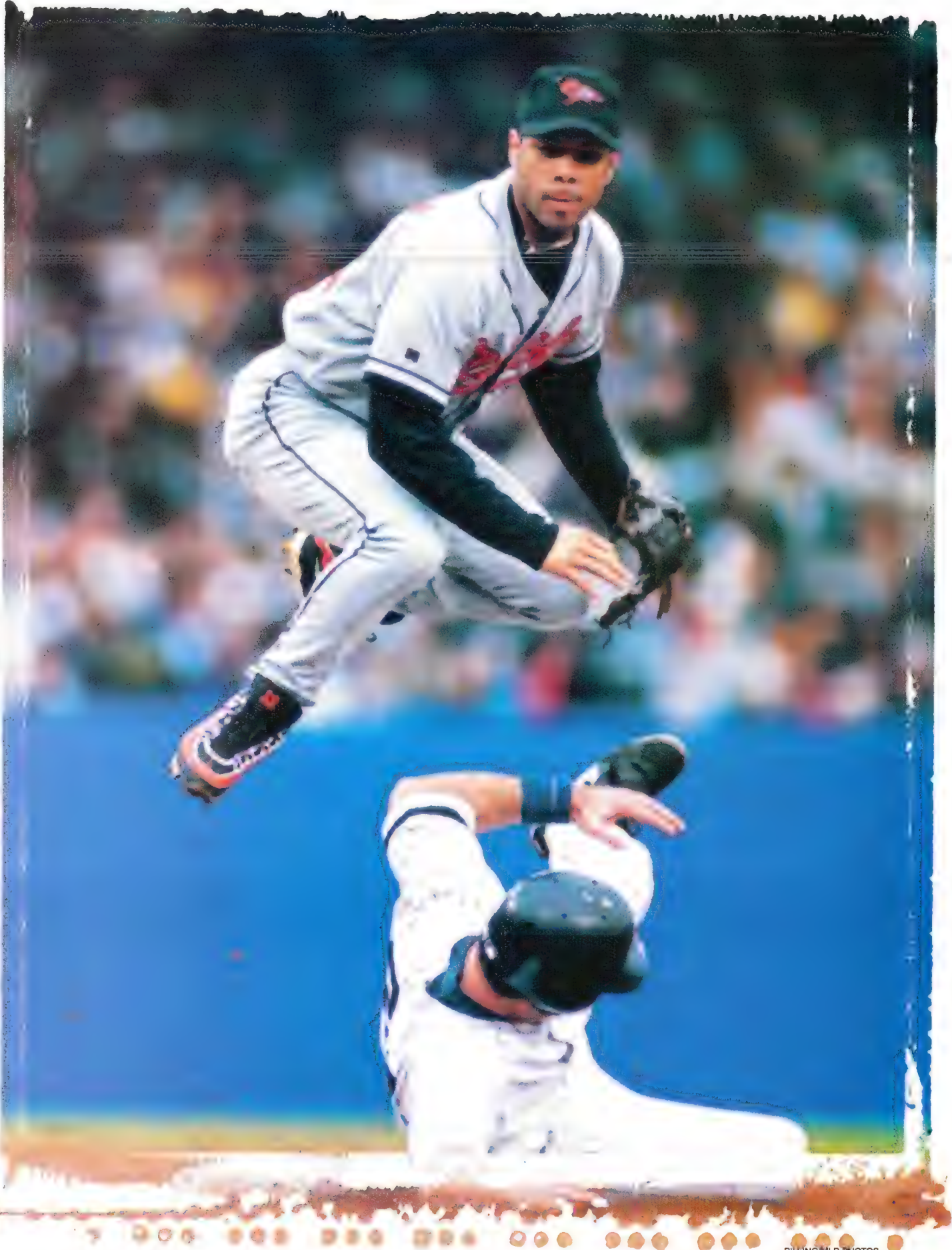
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# DOUBLE JEOPARDY

Major Leaguers make it look easy, but there is more that goes into completing a successful



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

ASG ★ 97



double play than meets the eye. By Bob Cunningham

JUST ANOTHER DAY AT THE OFFICE FOR BALTIMORE SECOND BASEMAN ROBERTO ALOMAR

YORRAQO3L3J8U00



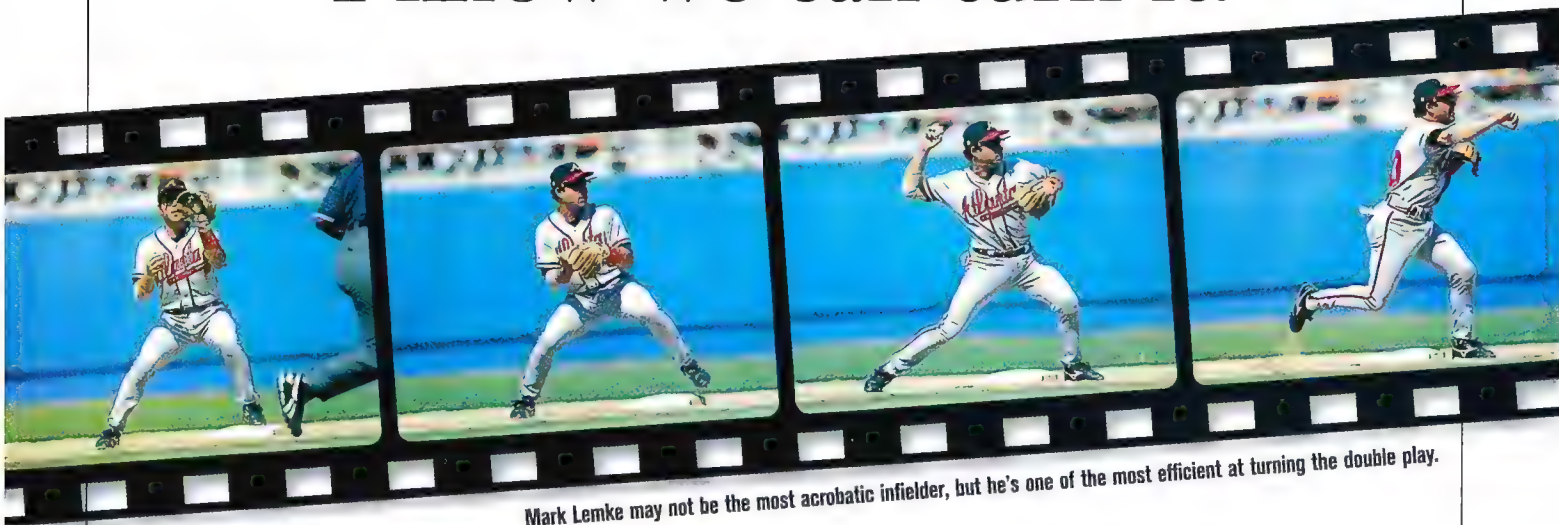


# t's the bottom of the sixth

inning at Anaheim Stadium. The Baltimore Orioles are visiting on this surprisingly cool spring evening. Anaheim's Jim Edmonds is on first with one out. Tim Salmon is at the plate.

As Salmon digs in, a thought runs through the mind of Orioles second baseman Roberto Alomar, a thought that's closer to a prediction about the ensuing outcome of Salmon's at-bat. "I'm always thinking about turning two," says Alomar, one of the game's smoothest and most gifted second sackers. "In that situation, they have two guys that run okay but are not real fast.

**"I know we can turn it."**



Mark Lemke may not be the most acrobatic infielder, but he's one of the most efficient at turning the double play.

Sure enough, Salmon lines a one-hopper to Orioles shortstop Mike Bordick, who flips to Alomar at second. Without losing momentum or concentration, Alomar takes the toss, turns his body while simultaneously dragging his foot across second and lifting himself into the air to avoid the sliding Edmonds, and fires a dart to Rafael Palmeiro at first that easily beats the sprinting Salmon.

A typical 6-4-3 Major League double play. Alomar has turned more than 700 of them in his brilliant career. And for his part, Bordick got it started.

As fans, we tend to take twin killings for granted. A double play is a routine part of the game, a rally destroyer that can rescue a struggling pitcher or bail out a fielder who committed an error earlier in the inning.

But turning two, in the traditional sense, is an art form.

There are second basemen such as Alomar, Cincinnati's Bret Boone, Atlanta's Mark Lemke and Philadelphia's Mickey Morandini who are proficient at the play. And, of course, there are shortstops such as Barry Larkin of the Reds, Greg Gagne of Los Angeles and Omar Vizquel of Cleveland who make it look downright easy.

It's anything but simple, however. "If you work on something enough, you get comfortable doing it and then it might look easy to someone else," Alomar says. "But believe me, it's very difficult—there are so many things to think about."

Alomar is blessed not only with his own skills, but with the experience of having played last season with Cal Ripken Jr., who has since moved to third base for the O's. Ripken and Alomar formed the steadiest duo in the American League. "His toss was always exactly where I wanted it," Alomar





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## DOUBLE JEOPARDY



It takes a lot of work to take an experienced veteran like Cal Ripken out of a potential double play.

out that the man best known for his dramatic home run to beat the Yankees in Game 7 of the 1960 World Series is more accomplished with the leather.

One of today's top tandems is Cincinnati's Barry Larkin and Bret Boone. Larkin, the '95 National League MVP, is athletic and courageous. Boone is fundamentally sound and he's also defensively aggressive. The two can really turn two.

Florida's second-year phenom Edgar Renteria displayed an amazing amount of poise in 106 games at short last year. Experience should make him one of the best.

says. "That's nothing but experience, man."

And, Alomar added, it's familiarity. From the Chicago Cubs' infamous Tinker-to-Evers-to-Chance some nine decades ago (see sidebar, page 60) to the Dodgers' Bill Russell, Davey Lopes and Steve Garvey in the '70s, to the modern day Cubs' Dunston-to-Sandberg-to-Grace, infield combos have grown together to bring consistency to one of the game's most exciting plays.

The all-time leaders in total single-season double-plays, in fact, are not so much household names as they are longtime associates. While Alomar and Ripken led the Majors last season when the two were involved in 225 total DPs, the Major League record was set in 1966, when the Pittsburgh Pirates' Bill Mazeroski and Gene Alley joined forces in 289 double plays.

Statistically, Mazeroski has been involved in more double plays than any player in history. In addition to teaming with Alley for that '66 total, he combined with Dick Groat to compile 264 in '62 and 261 in '61. Turns

"They're the best in the (NL) without a doubt," says Cleveland veteran second baseman Robby Thompson, who toiled for 10 years in the NL with San Francisco before signing with the Indians this past spring.

Thompson knows a little something about effective double-play duos, having formed one of the league's best with Jose Uribe in the mid and late '80s. "The second baseman and shortstop each have their jobs," he says. "In some ways they're the same, but in others they're completely opposite."

The most difficult aspect of turning the double play, especially for second basemen, is the actual recording of the outs. Although there are many instances when "phantom tags" are permitted by umpires, the fielder turning the DP is generally obligated to touch the base before sending a throw on to first.

That can be trickier than it sounds.

"You don't have much time to work with. Either you do it the first try, or you just eat it," explains Sandberg. "The most important thing, which I tell to kids who play, is to get the out at second. Get the lead runner."

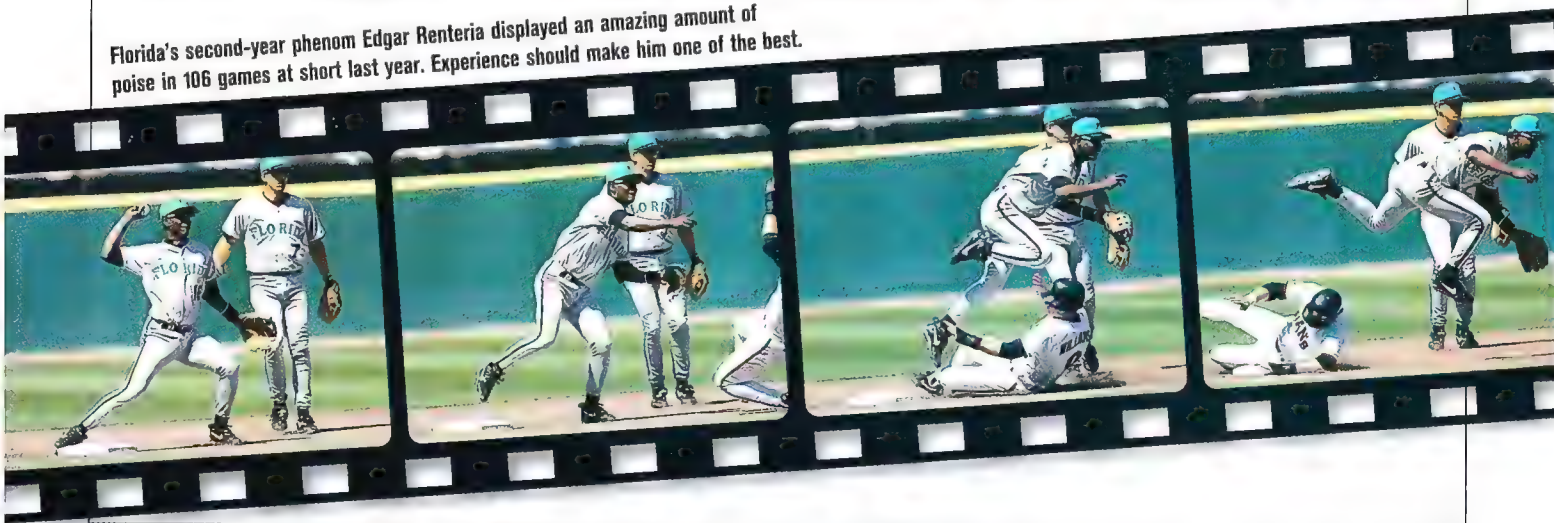
A major factor in turning double plays, Thompson points out, is that so many things can go wrong. "Just getting the first out, that's still okay," he says. "The problem comes from not getting anyone because of a bobble, or because of a poor throw to first that lets that runner into scoring position. Then there's also the danger involved."

While Alomar is perhaps the most acrobatic of today's second basemen when turning two, Lemke is arguably the most efficient. Watching him turn the double play is to observe no wasted effort. At a modest 5-9 and 170 pounds, Lemke knows the best way is to get in and get out. "There's nothing fancy with what I do. I want us to get both outs and walk away from the play," he says.

The 4-6-3 DP is only simpler in that the shortstop, who is taking the throw at second, is already facing his throwing



Pittsburgh's Bill Mazeroski has been involved in more double plays than any other player in history.



MLB PHOTOS: REID (RIPKEN); KEE (RENTERIA); NATIONAL BASEBALL LIBRARY (MAZEROSKI)





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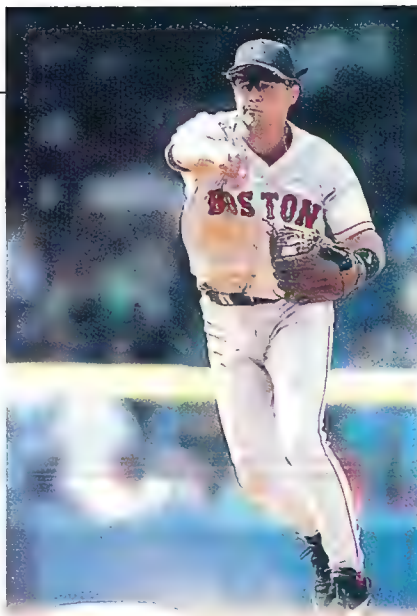


## DOUBLE JEOPARDY

target as well as the oncoming baserunner before he completes the play. "I played shortstop in high school and in juco (junior college) ball," Thompson recalls. "It's a lot easier to have everything happening in front of you. As a second baseman, you're kind of blind until the last moment."

The most common method used by Major League shortstops such as Bordick, Gagne and Vizquel is to simply drag the right foot across the bag during the throwing motion to first and use their momentum to clear themselves from harm's way. But there are others who do it differently. Shawon Dunston, for example, has an extraordinarily strong throwing arm, and this allows him to hold his ground longer when a runner is bearing down on him. "A lot of times, baserunners will get intimidated by Shawon's arm," Sandberg says. "He brings that throw right up the baseline where the runner is coming, and they end up thinking more about avoiding the throw than about taking Shawon out."

While Alomar alluded to experience as being one key to a successful tandem, the players involved do have to sport some good old



Second baseman John Valentin has teamed with shortstop Nomar Garciaparra this year to give the Red Sox a tough 6-4-3 punch.

fashioned ability. While young duos such as Oakland's Tony Batista and Scott Spiezio or Florida's Edgar Renteria and Luis Castillo generally need some time to gel into a seamless double-play team, they're all where they are for one main reason: they've got the raw skills.

As difficult as the double play may be, two basic principles still apply to the technique. A shortstop or second baseman must first and foremost handle the ground ball cleanly. He then must put the toss where his "partner in crime" desires it.

As Thompson points out, that varies from player to player. "Guys have different comfort zones," he says. "Some like it chest high, but some like it a little lower, and others want it even higher." Thompson says that former

San Francisco shortstop Jose Uribe, for example, was proficient at scooping a lower toss while Royce Clayton, now with St. Louis, prefers the ball to be up where he can see it.

Clayton is now considered among the elite defensive shortstops, but Thompson recalls that when Clayton first broke into the majors at San Francisco in 1992, it wasn't exactly a case of instant karma. "It took a while for us to learn each other," Thompson says.



## POETRY IN MOTION

As baseball poems go, it's right up there with "Casey at the Bat." Ask any real fan to name the most famous double-play combination in history, and chances are you'll get the

refrain, "Tinker to Evers to Chance." But few people know the entire poem, or even its title—"Baseball's Sad Lexicon":

*These are the saddest of possible words—  
Tinker to Evers to Chance.  
Trio of Bear Cubs and fleeter than birds—  
Tinker to Evers to Chance.  
Ruthlessly pricking our gonfalon bubble,  
Making a Giant hit into a double,  
Words that are weighty with nothing but trouble—  
Tinker to Evers to Chance.*

Like "Casey at the Bat," the authorship of "Baseball's Sad Lexicon" was a question mark for a number of years. And like "Casey," the poem was eventually credited to a newspaper writer. Franklin P. Adams, a Windy City native who had remained an ardent Chicago Cubs fan after moving to New York and taking a job as a columnist for the old *New York Evening Mail*, wrote the poem in 1910—apparently under a bit of

duress. The Cubs, it seems, were in town to face the New York Giants at the Polo Grounds, and Adams was in a rush to get out to the game to root for his hometown nine.

The foreman in the composing room at the *Evening Mail*, unfortunately, had little interest in Adams' extracurricular activities, and he informed the young newspaperman that he would have to fill eight lines of copy before he could leave for the game. Undaunted, Adams sat down and quickly penned the famous poem, which he didn't think was very good and that he would later refer to as "the double play thing."

The subjects of Adams' poem, not surprisingly, were living, breathing Chicago Cubs: shortstop Joe Tinker, second baseman Johnnie Evers and first baseman Frank Chance. All three men played for the Cubbies in the first decade of this century—Tinker and Evers from 1902 to 1913, and Chance from 1898 to 1912—and all three men were inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1946. In addition, all three players went on to manage the team—Chance as a player-manager from 1905 to 1912; Evers in 1913 and 1921; and Tinker in 1916.

What did the famous double-play combo think about the poem written in their honor? Tinker's and Chance's feelings are unknown, but years later, Adams was introduced to Evers, who told the writer he was indebted to him for keeping his name in front of the public for all those years. "I'd have been forgotten long ago," Evers told him, "if it wasn't for 'Baseball's Sad Lexicon.'" ★





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Even veterans who are paired together for the first time generally need an adjustment period. "When I went to Kansas City and was joined with Chico [Lind]," Greg Gagne recalls, "we were both considered pretty good fielders, but it took us some time to get to know each other. The first few times we turned two, especially during Spring Training, we were kind of out of sync."

Gagne and Lind, both considered among the best defensively at their positions, went on to post the second-highest double-play total in the AL in 1995. "Well, I guess we adjusted," Gagne says with a grin.

A different scenario arises when a veteran on one side is paired with a rookie or other relatively inexperienced partner on the other. Gagne is going through that this season in Los Angeles with rookie second baseman Wilton Guerrero. There's also the case of veteran shortstop Kevin Elster and rookie Tony Womack in Pittsburgh. "It's really just a case of you, as the veteran, being willing to do anything you can to help the kid, and having him be receptive to it," Gagne says. "It's been great with Wil and I."

An even odder situation exists in Boston, where incumbent shortstop John Valentin was bumped over to second base to make room for rookie shortstop Nomar Garciaparra. As if it wasn't difficult enough for Valentin to make the physical transition, the duo could have been hampered further by the controversy surrounding Valentin's dissatisfaction with being moved.

The two have worked well together, however. "It was never about [Nomar]," Valentin said in April. "He's an excellent shortstop, and the adjustment has been easier than I expected. On the double play, we're already pretty comfortable."

While the second base/shortstop combination is foremost in any discussion regarding the double play, there are other types of DPs that require even greater demands... and often result in even louder cheers from fans.

**"Baserunners get intimidated by [Shawon Dunston's] arm," says Ryne Sandberg. "He brings that throw right up the baseline."**

**Reds second baseman Bret Boone uses sound fundamentals and an aggressive defensive style to make the pivot and throw from second look like a piece of cake.**

While the 3-6-3 double play is fairly common, the 3-6-1 double play is generally only completed at the Major League level. In college or even the minors, the level of execution is such that a force at second is the most a team will generally shoot for. One of the most proficient first basemen at getting this play started is a 6-4 veteran better known for his talent at hitting home runs: Atlanta's Fred McGriff. The "Crime Dog" has initiated this play on numerous occasions, and usually with the desired result. In one fluid motion, he scoops a grounder to his right and fires the ball to shortstop Jeff Blauser, who then relays the ball to the pitcher at first to complete the job.

Several factors are key here. For one, the play is much simpler if the first baseman is left-handed. Eric Karros of the Dodgers can vouch for

that. "It's not just the turn you have to make as a right-hander—I think the throw to second is generally more difficult for a right-hander, too," says Karros. "If you're playing deep, it's not as difficult. But either way, it's tough to pull off."

According to Cleveland second baseman Robby Thompson, Boone and Barry Larkin (below, right) are the best double-play tandem in the National League.



REID/MLB PHOTOS (3)



**S**targell and Rodriguez on base

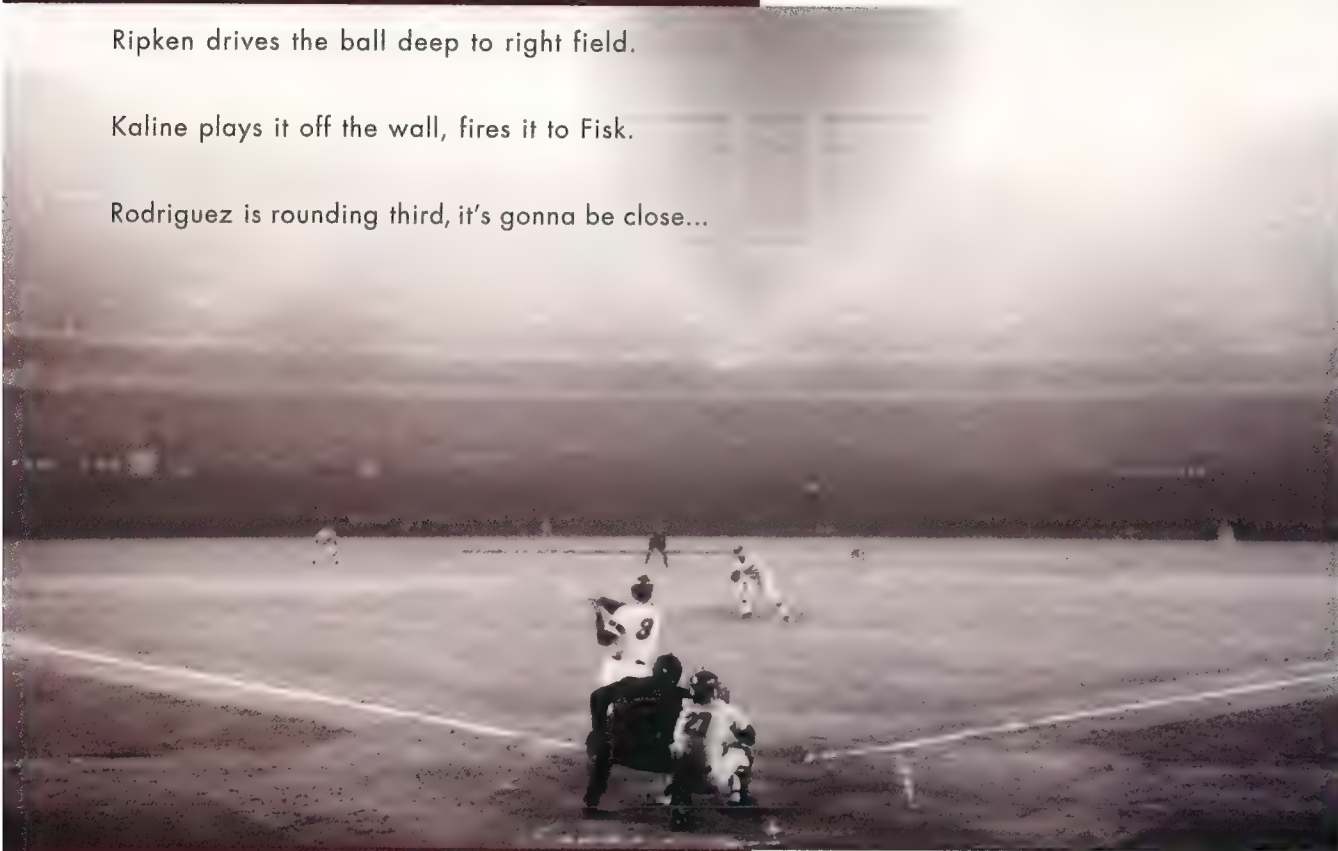
Gibson checks the runners, kicks and delivers



Ripken drives the ball deep to right field.

Kaline plays it off the wall, fires it to Fisk.

Rodriguez is rounding third, it's gonna be close...



Those who don't understand why you collect  
never built a dream team in their mind.



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**Indians third  
baseman  
Matt Williams  
is a master at  
engineering  
double plays  
from the hot  
corner.**

Other first basemen who are virtual tacticians in beginning double-plays include Grace, San Diego's Wally Joyner and San Francisco's J.T. Snow.

On the flip side of the infield, the 5-4-3 DP is more a measure of basic fielding and throwing technique. The third baseman must field the ball cleanly and have his throw on the money at second with something on it. Only then can the second baseman make the turn and nail the runner at first with any time to spare.

Cleveland's third baseman Matt Williams is an acknowledged master at engineering double plays from the hot corner.

"He's so quick and easy, and he always gets the ball cleanly," explains Thompson, who has played sparingly this year with the Tribe but was a part of the same infield with Williams when both were with the Giants. "The throw is always right where you want it. It's actually a pretty easy play when he's involved."

The 5-4-3 double play may offer the most significant consequences if it's botched. If the throw from third to second is errant, for example, the ball generally ends up in right field and the runner ends up at third—or, in some cases, at

home. By contrast, a bad throw on the front end of a 3-6-3 play often keeps the runner pinned at second, unable to advance because the ball has rolled into nearby left field.

"Accuracy is more important than velocity, but it's good to have both," offers San Diego third baseman Ken Caminiti, who is viewed by most as having the strongest throwing arm among infielders in the majors.

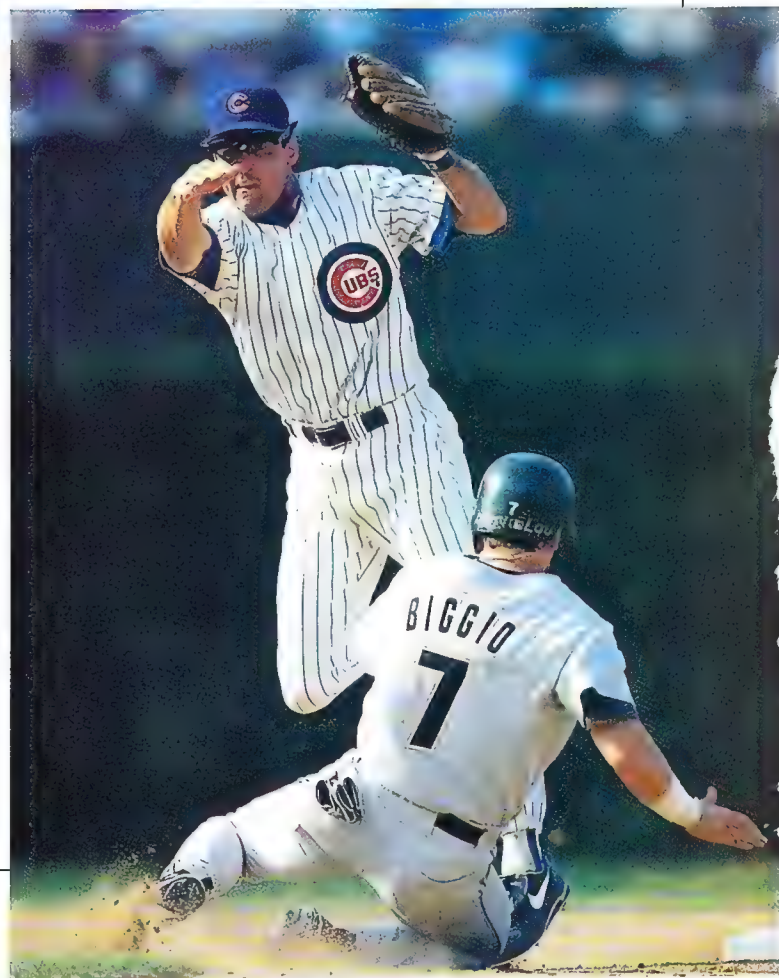
Although it occurs less frequently, the 1-6-3 double play is perhaps the simplest to execute. Why? Because a ball hit back to the pitcher generally gives all the fielders involved more time to work with. The key, of course, is for the pitch-

er's throw to be on target. To do this, he must field the comebacker and make a complete turn to face second. As always, the first throw of the sequence is vital.

"It's still a tough play, especially for a left-hander," says Anaheim southpaw Mark Langston, regarded as one of the game's best fielding pitchers. "A lot of times, you're stumbling off the mound to make the play or standing on it as you make the throw." When you consider that, a pitcher is probably better suited for a 1-2-3 DP, which only applies if the bases are loaded. If the hurler fields the ball cleanly, that type of twin-killing is as easy as...well, you get the picture.

An even rarer breed of double play involves the catcher.

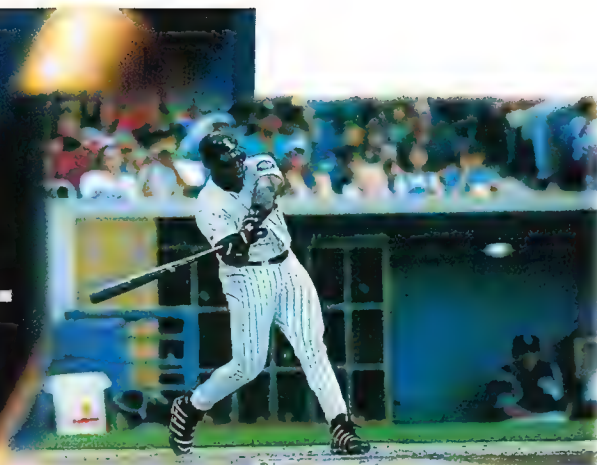
After a one-year hiatus in 1995, 10-time All-Star Ryne Sandberg is back in familiar territory—staring down oncoming baserunners.



MLB PHOTOS: VESELY (BATISTA); KEE (SANDBERG)



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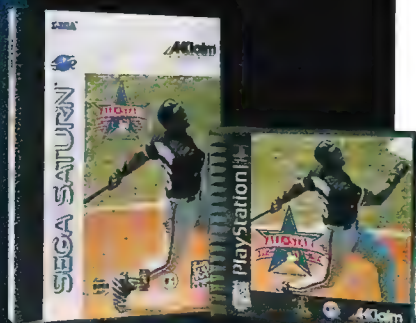
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## DOUBLE JEOPARDY

Generally, it is only conceivable to complete a 2-6-3 double play in the National League with a pitcher at the plate attempting a sacrifice bunt. "I used to love that play. If the pitcher doesn't get the bunt out far enough, I'd try to gun'em down at second and we'd get the pitcher at first to boot," former catching great Gary Carter wrote in his autobiography, *The Gamer*.

While Bill Mazeroski may be the all-time "authority" on double plays, no one is more qualified to discuss the subject from a creative standpoint than future Hall-of-Famer Ozzie Smith, arguably the best defensive shortstop ever. "I used to work really hard at practicing the catch and flip," Smith says, referring to the technique of taking the grounder and smoothly side-arming a toss to the second-base bag. "It was the second baseman's job to be there when I put the ball there. I'd try to get it to the same place every time."

Smith, who retired this year, certainly began more than the normal share of double plays, but it was his awesome skill

Greg Gagne, who is teaming with rookie Wilton Guerrero in the Dodgers' infield this year, says it's his job to help the young shortstop however he can.



**"I used to work really hard at practicing the catch and flip," says Ozzie Smith.**

Ozzie Smith says he did whatever occurred to him at the moment to complete a double play.

around the bag as the pivot-man that helped build his legend. "There's never been a player who could do the things that Ozzie Smith did," Yankees manager Joe Torre, who skipped Smith in St. Louis, told *USA Today* last September. "I honestly don't believe I ever saw him lose his feet because of a baserunner coming in. Not one time."

"Some things are instinctive," Smith says. "One of the enjoyable aspects of the game is being part of a successful double play, and I did whatever occurred to me at the moment to complete the play and stay on my feet."

The beauty of baseball, many of its followers claim, is how little the game has changed over the last century. The double play is an example of that endurance. What Dunston and Sandberg and today's other Major League tandems do routinely today doesn't differ much, if

at all, from what Joe Tinker and Johnny Evers accomplished just after the turn of the century.

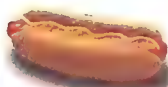
The players dress a little differently, act a little differently, and certainly get paid a whole lot differently for their services. But whether it's 1997 or 1907, one simple fact remains: Double plays kill rallies. ★

Bob Cunningham is a freelance baseball journalist based in Riverside, California.



MLB PHOTOS: DONOVAN (SMITH); KYLE (GAGNE)





## Fan Profile

# 17

**Name:** Tommy McBride

**Age:** 34

**Favorite Team:** Chicago Cubs®

**Favorite Hangout:** Cubby Bear Lounge

**Biggest Accomplishment:** Arranging my work schedule so I could make 72 home games last year.

**Claim To Fame:** Grew ivy on replica of Wrigley Field brick wall as a science experiment in junior high.

**Biggest Disappointment:** When they put the lights in at Wrigley Field.

**Words That Best Describe Me:** Loyal and optimistic. The hallmarks of a true Cubs fan.

**Game Day Uniform:** Embroidered Legends baseball fleece. It's comfortable. It's colorful. And on days when the wind is coming off the lake, it's as warm as the steam off a hot dog.



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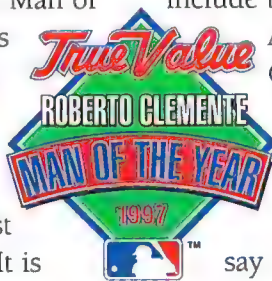


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# THE *Fielder's Choice*



Sturdy and sleek, the modern baseball glove is an indispensable part of the game. But it wasn't always that way. *BY TIM WILES*

Everyone remembers their first glove. You remember the trip to the store, the way the glove smelled, the way you broke it in, and the way it hung from the handlebars of your bike. You remember chewing on the laces absently during an interminable stint in right field, and you remember how you sometimes had

RAY DIORIG



to use your glove as a base because you couldn't find a Frisbee or a piece of cardboard. "I dug an outhouse to earn my first glove," said Pittsburgh Pirates great Bill Mazeroski. "It was a three-fingered Rawlings Playmaker."

My own first glove was a red leather Mike Schmidt model, and I will never forgive my older brother for smashing a banana in the pocket and then hiding the glove until the banana had done some serious damage.

*We used no mattress on our hands,  
No cage upon our face;  
We stood right up and caught the ball  
With courage and with grace.*

The game of baseball as we know it today would be unthinkable without the baseball glove. And yet, as the above lines by poet Henry Ellard dramatize, the game was routinely played with bare hands for nearly 40 years in the 19th century. Early ballplayers, especially catchers and first basemen, suffered an endless array of bruises, blisters, split skin, cracked nails and broken bones. The manly game of baseball required this sacrifice of the hands, and you always knew when you met a baseball catcher—as someone once said, shaking his hand “was like grasping a handful of peanuts.”

In 1869, catcher Doug Allison of the Cincinnati Red Stockings—the first professional baseball team—reportedly



The 1896 Reach guide shows that while gloves were fairly primitive, the idea of padding them had begun to catch on.

donned a pair of gloves to cushion his hands. From Allison's innovation to the highly engineered wonders of today, baseball gloves have evolved more dramatically than any other piece of baseball equipment, and along the way, have transformed the game.

The first gloves looked nothing like today's gloves. They were, plain and simply, gloves—tight-fitting leather gloves more similar to today's batting gloves than to fielder's gloves. Players would wear them on both hands, cutting the tips off the fingers so that they could more easily grip and throw the ball. Unlike today's big leaguers, no one ever thought of trying to catch a ball with one hand.

In 1875, first baseman Charles Waitt of the National Association's St. Louis team donned a pair of flesh-toned gloves in a game—he'd chosen that color to avoid detection—but he immediately felt the sting of ridicule from both players and fans. Two years later, however, the great Al Spalding donned gloves, only this time he chose black, perhaps in order to advertise—he owned a sporting goods store that would soon be carrying those very gloves.

In 1883, Arthur Irwin, a shortstop for the Providence Grays, began a process that would revolutionize the game. After breaking two fingers on one hand, Irwin approached the Draper-Maynard glove company about designing him a glove that would protect his hand from the pain. The result was a

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GLOVE-OLUTION

## FINGERLESS GLOVES circa 1860-90

Worn on both hands, these early gloves were not exactly conducive to the one-handed catch.



By joining the thumb and forefinger with a piece of leather, Cardinals pitcher Bill Doak changed the game.

circa 1922  
**BILL DOAK MODEL**



work-style glove that not only cushioned his hand, but that also seemed to serve as an aid to fielding. Company designers hit upon the idea of outfitting every player with a glove.

Ten years later, in 1893, Cleveland's George Cuppy became the first pitcher to wear a glove. At about this time, several men were in the process of becoming the last gloveless big leaguers. Louisville third baseman Jerry Denny retired in 1894, having never worn a glove and having committed 609 career errors to prove it. Second basemen Fred Dunlap, Bid McPhee, and Fred Pfeffer were also members of that dying breed.

In 1895, gloves were first mentioned in the rules of baseball, which allowed for catchers and first baseman to wear gloves "of any size, shape, or weight." All other gloves could not weigh more than ten ounces nor be

Notice that the Reach "Special Fielder's Glove" of 1900 came equipped with a very modern-sounding "Patent Deep Pocket."



**The Reach Fielder's Mitts.**

No. 6	The Reach Fielder's Mitt is made of the finest Brown Buckskin, padded with best Asbestos Felt, Patent Hump. Thumb laced to body of Mitt, making our Patent Deep Pocket. Each.	\$2.00
No. 7	The Reach Fielder's Mitt is made of the finest Dark Buck Skin, Brown Leather Back, Patent Hump, and Thumb laced to body of Mitt, making our Patent Deep Pocket. Each.	1.00
No. 7B	The Reach Fielder's Mitt for Youths is made of the finest Brown Tan Leather, well padded. Thumb laced to body of Mitt, making our Patent Deep Pocket. Each.	.50



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No. 00.

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**The Patent Deep Pocket** is a feature.

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Write for illustrated catalogue.

more than 14 inches in circumference. From today's perspective, those 10-ounce fielder's gloves were essentially still protective devices and not yet fielding aids, and most of them could be folded in half and stuck in a player's back pocket.

By 1908, a controversy had developed over the role that gloves had begun to play in the game. Said the newspaper *Sporting Life*: "We have no desire to revert to the gloveless game...the big mitt should be confined to the catcher, the pitcher and infielders should wear only small gloves, and the outfielders should wear no gloves at all." According to the annual *Spalding Guide*, "It may be that no more .400 hitters are likely to be born...the thick glove has given the fielder the daring to undertake to stop or catch anything." The *Boston Globe* added that "Men break into the game solely because they can hit. The big mitt does the rest." It should be noted that the average fielder's glove of 1908 still looked more like a winter glove than like what players use today.

If the sages of 1908 thought that they had big gloves on their hands, they hadn't counted on the likes of Bill Doak. In 1919, Doak, a spitball pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals, approached the Rawlings company with some ideas for improving the baseball glove. "To begin with," Doak said later, "I wanted a glove not [just] as...protection [for] the hand, but one that would serve as the biggest aid in catching a ball."

Doak's two revolutionary ideas were to bring the thumb tip almost even with the other fingertips, and to connect the thumb and first finger with a thong of leather. Doak's basic design took off, and was still marketed by Rawlings as late as 1954. Although gloves would continue to change and get larger, Bill Doak essentially gave baseball the very first modern glove.

Today's big leaguers, however, would have an incredible amount of difficulty catching anything with Bill Doak's glove. It wasn't even until the 1940s that all of the fingers were

## circa 1935-50 INFIELDER'S GLOVE

A typical infielder's glove from the middle of this century. Now let's see—where does the ball go?

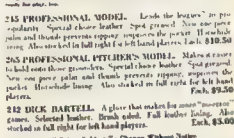
## WEBBING AND STITCHING circa 1948-60s

After 1948, finger-stitching and extensive webbing are added to most gloves.





Tiger manager Buddy Bell, who played third base in the big leagues from 1972 to 1989, once donned a 1940s-style glove for a “turn-back-the-clock” type promotion. “If everybody used these old gloves,” Bell said afterward, “batting averages would shoot up 20 points.” Weighing in from the other side of the argument, however, was Hall-of-Famer Edd Roush, who played centerfield for 18 seasons beginning in 1913: “I never



The evolution of the catcher's mitt closely parallels that of the standard fielder's glove, but history has lost the name of the first catchers to add padding to the palm. At first, these men added whatever was handy: grass, cotton, even raw meat. But by the 1880s, the "puff pillow" catcher's mitt began to appear. The idea was to take a regular, five-fingered glove and





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Early "puffy" catcher's mitts. The white canvas model on the right was probably homemade.

circa 1900-20  
**CATCHER'S MITTS**

sew a round piece of leather into the palm and finger area. Gradually, more layers of padding were added until the mitts began to resemble today's catcher's mitt.

The next great advance in catcher's mitt technology came in the '50s, when Gus Niarhos cut an opening in the pocket of his mitt to create a sort of hinge, which allowed him to snap the

glove shut much more quickly than before. Niarhos' invention was adopted by the glove-makers, and it eventually

led to the modern style of one-handed catching.

Although the mitts used by Major League catchers today are fairly standardized, personal preferences still play a big role in the search for the perfect glove. "I like a standard glove, although mine's a little bigger than a normal catcher's mitt," says Mike Piazza of the Dodgers. "I add a thumb-guard made of molded plastic, which keeps my left thumb from hyperextending on sinkers."

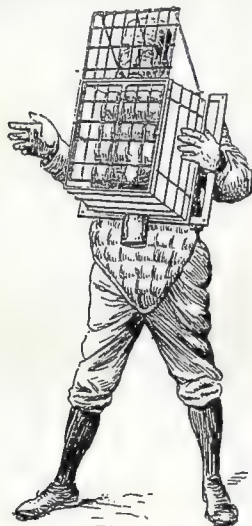
Joe Girardi of the Yankees prefers just the opposite. "I like using a smaller glove, because it gives me better control behind the plate," he explains. "With a bigger glove, I don't seem to move as well, and when you're catching someone with good velocity, a bigger glove doesn't really make that much of a difference, anyway."

Although gloves have gotten bigger over time, there are some notable exceptions. Hall-of-Famer Joe Morgan is well-known for using an extremely small glove at second base. Morgan, who got the idea from Nellie Fox, another great second baseman, felt it was easier to get the ball out of a smaller glove. That sentiment is still echoed today. "For second base, I want a smaller glove—I don't want the ball getting hung up in it," says Angels infielder Tony Phillips. "Plus, when you're playing second, you don't always have to catch the ball cleanly. You can knock it down and still have time to make the play."

But for every player like Morgan or Phillips who prefers a small glove, there are many who prefer the greater catching area of a large one. In 1934, Hank Greenberg introduced a first baseman's mitt with a noticeably larger web than any glove before it. The

#### A New Baseball Catcher

An ingenious apparatus shown in the accompanying illustration is intended to save the catcher's hands.  
The doors on the front of the box are mounted to swing inwardly when the ball



strikes them and the ball impacts against a padded cushion at the back of the box. After striking the cushion, the ball drops down and rolls through an opening at the lower part of the box.

The Edsel of baseball equipment? James Bennett patented the rather unwieldy "baseball receiver" in 1904.

## LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

The oddest catching device of all time wasn't a mitt, but rather, the almost indescribable "baseball receiver" patented by James Bennett in 1904. Bennett's device was a large metal cage that the catcher was supposed to strap onto his chest. As the pitch arrived, the catcher would position himself so that the ball flew through the cage's gates and then dropped down through a funnel at the bottom into his hand. The press said that the device "resembled a cage built for a homesick bear or a dyspeptic hyena." Other accounts painted humorous pictures of a catcher getting under a pop foul and then lying on the ground to corral the ball in the cage. Baseball would be a very different game had Bennett's device caught on.





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No. 0. SPALDING'S LEAGUE CATCHER'S GLOVE, made of extra heavy Indian tanned buck, and carefully selected with special attention to the hand (face required) of the open back, well padded, solid fully warranted. 2.50

No. 1. SPALDING'S PROFESSIONAL GLOVE, made of Indian tanned buckskin, open back, well padded, but not quite as heavy material as the No. 0. 2.00

No. 2. SPALDING'S AVIATOR GLOVE, made of lighter buck skin, open back, well padded and adapted for amateur players. 1.50

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They sure don't make catcher's gear the way they used to. Left page: An early method of saving face. Right page: Just looking at these gloves hurts our hands.

responsible for revolutionizing the shape of the glove," he said.

Gloves can get even bigger than Greenberg's, however. In 1939, Reds farmhand pitcher Joe Orrell, who never made the Reds but would later pitch for the Tigers, brought a large glove measuring almost 15 inches top to bottom and nearly 13 inches wide to Spring Training. His intent was to use the glove to hide pitches as they were in the process of delivery, and also to protect himself from hard-hit balls.

Dodgers reliever Todd Worrell knows the importance of a protective glove all too well. "My glove saved my life once," Worrell says. "When I was playing for St. Louis in 1988, Jeff Blauser (of the Braves) hit a ball right back at me. I was bent over, and the ball was coming right at my head. I threw my glove up and deflected it—it hit me in the chest but didn't break anything. The force of the blow knocked me over."

Until about 1940, horsehide was the glove leather of choice. Cowhide, or more accurately, steerhide—which is a little tougher—then became the material of choice. (For a short time in the early 1970s, kangaroo leather replaced steerhide, leading to bad jokes about catching the ball in the pocket. Ostrich leather has also occasionally been used.)

While most glove production has gone overseas in the last 25 years, Rawlings still makes many Major League gloves by hand at its factory in tiny Ava, Missouri. Workers at the plant cut patterns from the steerhide and assemble the glove inside out. Assembled gloves are then coated with a wax that helps give them their shape, turned right-side out, and then placed on a metal mold

glove was eventually disallowed when new size limitations were announced, but in the 1950s, Greenberg's design was reintroduced by manufacturers. "I was responsible for revolutionizing the shape of the glove," he said.

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## TOUGH GLOVE

Everyone knows how stiff and hard to handle a new glove can be—including the pros. But one advantage that they have over the average person is an insider's knowledge of how to break a glove in—knowledge that's been passed down by thousands of Major Leaguers over the years. Here are a few of their secrets:

**MIKE PIAZZA**, Los Angeles Dodgers: "I just give it to Bertie [bullpen catcher Dennis Bertiotti]. He uses it for two or three weeks and it's ready to go. I pack it with two baseballs in the pocket to keep the shape and tie it with a sanitary sock."

**TIM NAEHRING**, Boston Red Sox: "I dunk my glove in water, put two baseballs in the pocket and tie it up with a pair of sanitary socks. Then I let it hang and dry overnight, and the next day I oil it. After that, I break the glove in by standing in front of a pitching machine and catching as many pitches as I can."

called a "hot hand," which finalizes the shape. On an average day, the factory turns out about 100 gloves.

Players have all sorts of superstitions when it comes to their gloves. Most have several mitts, but a primary glove is designated as their "gamer." "I've used the same glove for the last four years," says Dodgers first baseman Eric Karros. "I'd feel naked if I went out there with some other glove. And I only use it for games—I won't take it out for batting practice."

Billy Williams used to throw his glove into the stands after the last game of each season at Wrigley. Eventually, large crowds of Cubs fans would wait for the final out of the season. Twins shortstop Zoilo Versalles reportedly threw his glove away after every error. His glove company, which provided Versalles with free gloves, reportedly balked when Versalles made nearly 30 errors one year.

In contrast to those who throw or give away their gloves, there are players like Tim Wallach, who use the same glove year after year, sometimes for ten seasons or more. Or take San Diego's Rene Gonzales, whose brother passed down a glove to him when Rene made his high school team. Gonzales still uses the glove after a dozen years in the Majors, and he carries it with him everywhere in a Wonder Bread bag. "I just want to add that I am not a superstitious person," he says.

There is an almost mystic attachment to gloves for many players. One Minor Leaguer in the Dodger organization was so attached to his glove that he kept it far beyond the point where it was an effective catching tool. When the time finally came for the glove to go, he and his teammates buried it in right field in a solemn ceremony. Of such occasions, former Major Leaguer Ron Swoboda has said, "It's sad, it really is. It's just like when your dog dies." ★

*Tim Wiles is the director of research at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown.*

**TIM SALMON**, Anaheim Angels: "The first couple of times, I soak it, roll it, hang it and let it dry out. You need patience. I use it, sweat in it and let it soften. Some guys put gloves under their beds, some put a trunk on top of it, some guys microwave it. I think just using it is the best way."

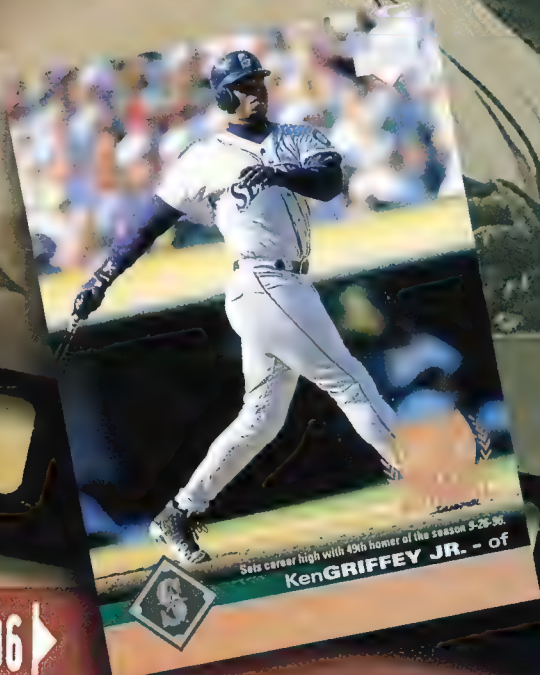
**WADE BOGGS**, New York Yankees: "A lot of players use mink oil or soap to soften the leather, and then the glove ends up falling apart. I don't do anything to my glove—I just play catch with it and use it in batting practice."

**TONY PHILLIPS**, Anaheim Angels: "I used to break all my gloves in the pancake way (opening the glove flat and placing a heavy weight on it). It shapes the glove great for balls hit right at you, but one year, I made a lot of errors on balls that I was trying to backhand, so now I use the closed style (folding the glove shut and placing a weight on it), too, so I can catch the ball backhanded."



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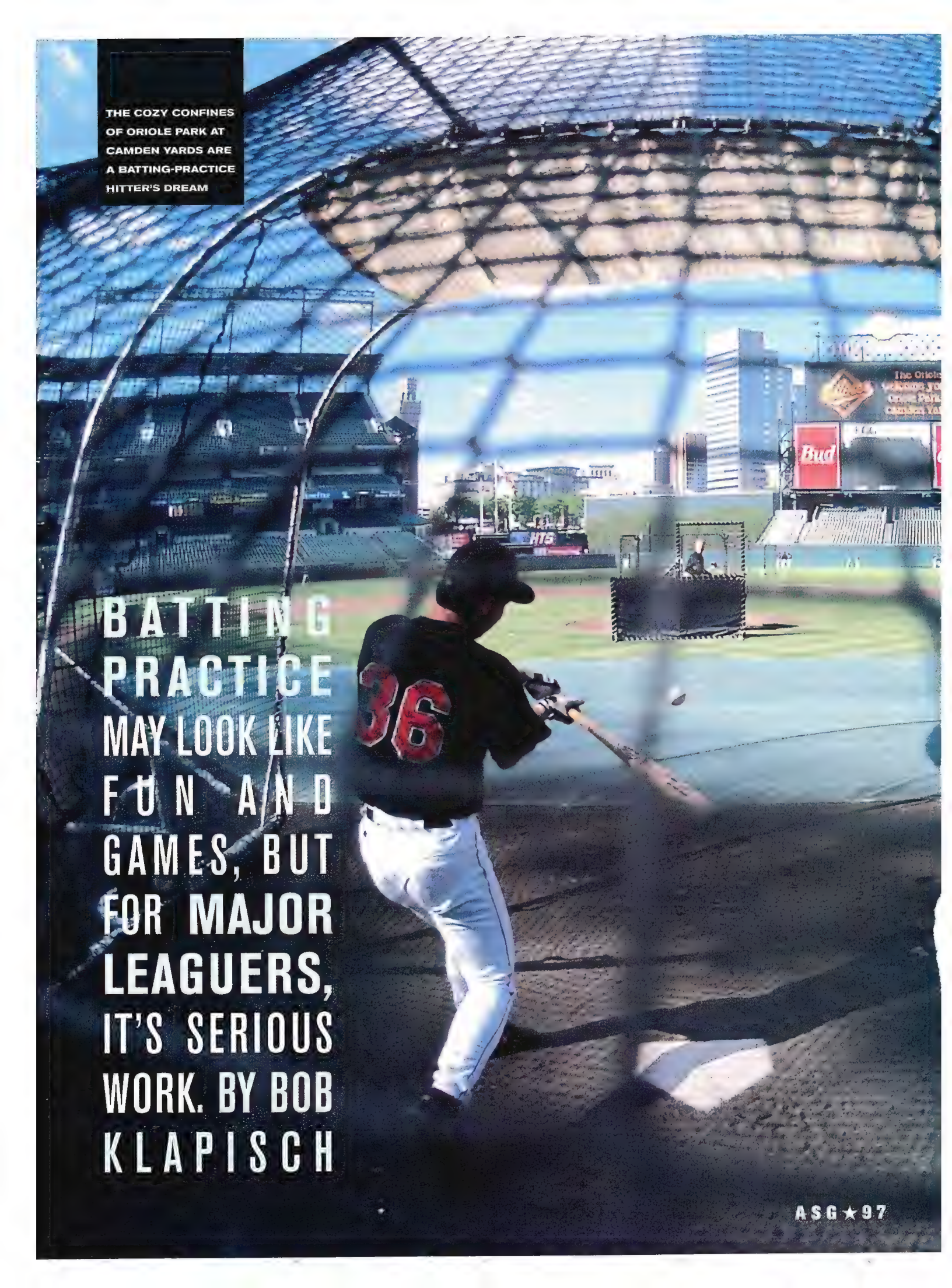


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A BATTING-PRACTICE  
HITTER'S DREAM

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FUN AND  
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FOR MAJOR  
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# TP R A R C G T E I C T E

If you agree that hitting is a science, then just where do the scientists conduct their research? The answer can be found every day at 5 p.m., when the home team takes the field in a still-empty stadium and a batter steps to the plate and awaits the slow, pleasant arrival of that first 70-mph fastball.

Welcome to the world of batting practice, one of baseball's most beloved and time-honored traditions. Any fan who gets to the ballpark early enough understands why batting practice has a cult following—not just with the public, but among players, too. It even has its own simple nickname: “BP.” It's where position players commune with baseball in its purest form: simple, pure hitting for every type of offensive philosophy.

Watch the singles hitter, who pokes base hits to every field in a methodical, machine-like fashion. Or the doubles hitter, who sends line drives deep into the gaps. Or the home run hitter, who launches one 400-foot missile after another into the seats.

For the fans who've strategically placed themselves in the bleachers, BP is a little bit of heaven on earth—where else, after all, could catching a souvenir be something approaching a guarantee? Nevertheless, don't be fooled—beneath the guise of recreation, batting practice is actually a very tightly-run, perfectly choreographed exercise. From the time that both teams are allowed on the field, to who gets to pitch

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MITCHELL  
LAYTON IN BALTIMORE, RON  
VESELY IN CHICAGO AND  
DARREN CARROLL IN HOUSTON



batting practice, to even the number of swings each hitter takes, BP is a ballet.

"I happen to take batting practice very seriously," says Yankee third baseman Wade Boggs, a .343 career hitter and seven-time batting champion. "To me, the worst days are rainouts or when batting practice has been canceled for some reason. It's something that I've grown to depend on."

Minnesota's Chuck Knoblauch is just as passionate about the subject as Boggs. Knoblauch, who tied for third in batting in the American League last year with a .341 average, believes his success comes from respecting batting practice. That means not wasting time gossiping with teammates in the outfield or conducting interviews with reporters in the dugout.

"To me, it's not just a cliché to say, 'you play like you practice,'" says the Twins' second baseman. "I've found that if I have a good batting practice, I usually have a good game. I know a lot of guys go up there trying to see how far they can hit the ball. I don't. I try to work on hitting the ball to all fields, making sure I get loose. Hitting isn't just something I can turn on and off once the game starts."

Of course, there is a flip side to Boggs' and Knoblauch's mania. Take Ken Griffey Jr., for example, who insists that batting practice is nothing more than medicine for the ego. Swing hard, swing for the fences, swing for the pure enjoyment of putting a dent in a baseball. And if the weather is an ally, why not take advantage of the mid-afternoon sunshine, too?

"Basically, batting practice has nothing to do with the game, so all I'm trying to do is get loose and get my timing down," Griffey explains. "I look at batting practice as fun for me and the fans. It's a warm-up."

Whether it's an addiction or simply a way to fill the hours before the first pitch, batting practice still requires its participants to follow the rules. The home team's bench players hit first, before BP officially begins. These five or so substitutes get a total of roughly 20 minutes, or about 3 to 4



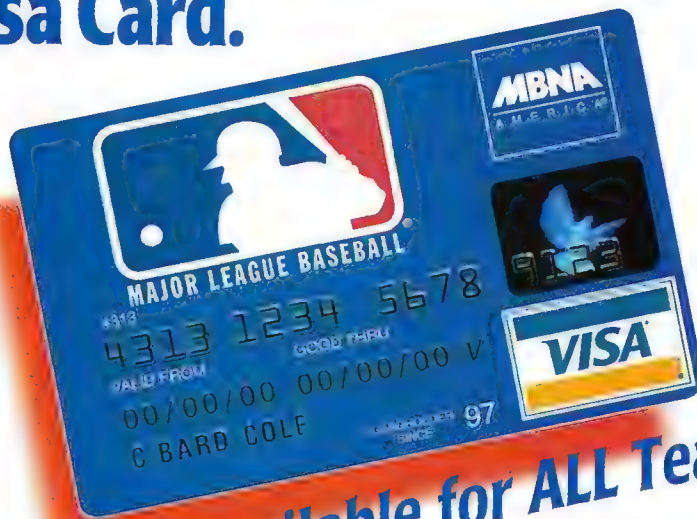
RIGHT: THREE CUBS LOUSEN UP FOR THE CROWD AT WRIGLEY. BOTTOM LEFT: JUST A LITTLE FRIENDLY INTERSQUAD HITTING INSTRUCTION. BOTTOM RIGHT: AMMO.



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minutes per man. This takes place from 5:00 to 5:20 p.m. for a 7:35 p.m. start. When that group is done, the home team's starting lineup is given a 50-minute session, and then the entire visiting team's roster hits for 40 minutes, until about 6:50.

Just about every Major Leaguer will tell you that batting practice doesn't last long enough, so they know better than anyone how critical it is that those minutes are used wisely and efficiently. In fact, the choreography of batting practice has to be seamless. During the allotted 50 minutes, the starting lineup is broken into groups of three—the first, second and third hitters in the batting order, followed by Nos. 4-5-6, and then Nos. 7-8-9.

Each group hits for 15 minutes, which gives each man in the group roughly five minutes to himself. But that's not to say that those are five uninterrupted minutes. "That would be too much at one time—it would defeat the purpose of batting practice," says Yankee hitting instructor Chris Chambliss. Hitters can actually get tired—and worse, develop bad habits—from taking too many swings. Therefore, each group bats in "rounds" within their 15 minutes.

In the first round, each hitter gets 10 swings. In the second round, the number goes down to eight, then seven, then six and so on, the number

of repetitions dwindling as the 15-minute clock runs out. On a good day—that is, on a day when the batting-practice pitcher is delivering those fat, inviting, middle-of-the-plate fastballs in a blur—a hitter can get in as many as 30 to 40 swings.

In the meantime, infielders who aren't hitting are taking practice ground balls from coaches, while the outfielders and pitchers position themselves near the warning track to take part in a comfortable, slow-paced routine called "shagging." It means

that a player is responsible for retrieving—although not necessarily catching—the fly balls and line drives that come his way. In other words, it's a time to interface with teammates.

Obviously, hitters take BP far more seriously than fielders do. But Yankee manager Joe Torre worries that hitters sometimes become psychologically dependent on batting practice. He notices that many players rush to get that last, perfect swing as time is running out, making sure to finish the session on a high note.

Indeed, Torre—a former National League MVP in 1971 with the Cardinals—looks back on his career and says, "I wasted a lot of time in the cage that wasn't necessary. But I can only say that now that I'm 56. When you're young, you think you

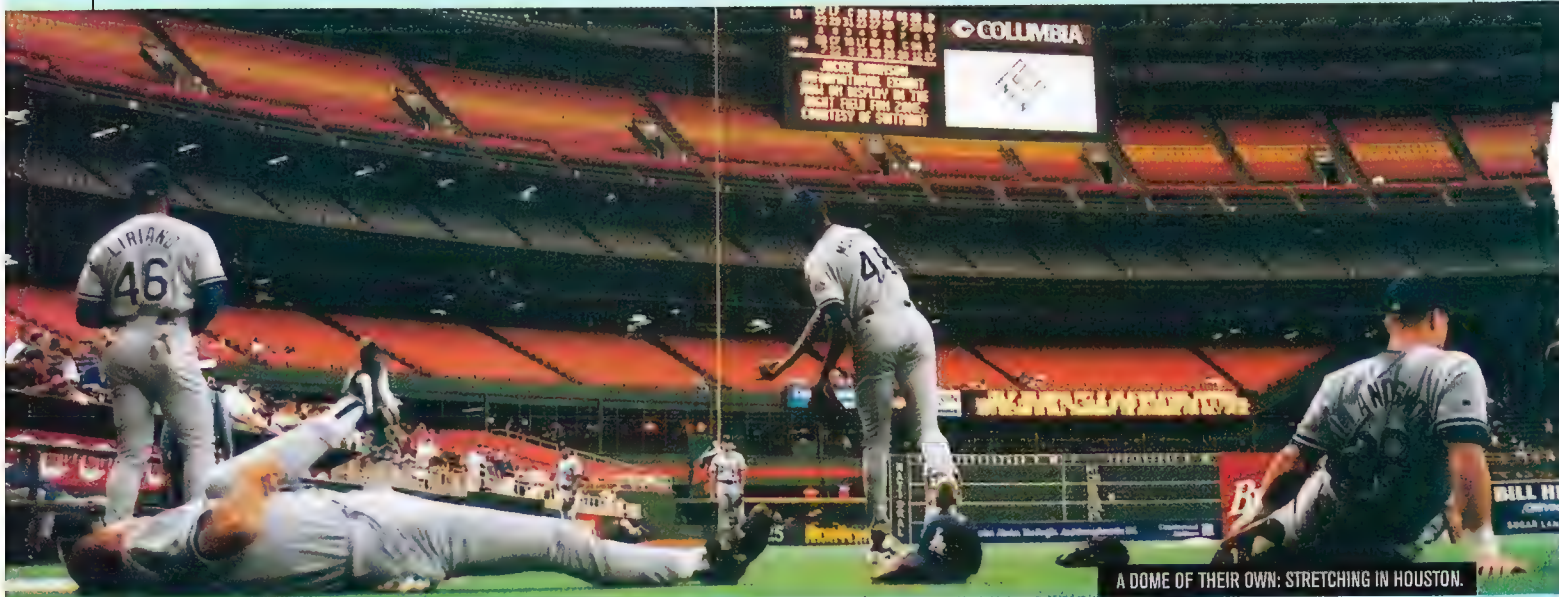
can conquer the world."

Torre's right, of course. For a young player, batting practice is paradise. Think of it: a steady stream of pitches that make even the average player look like a modern-day Babe Ruth. Even hitters with little power will hit at least one batting-practice home run in ten swings, and the game's muscle-flexers—the Griffey, the Sheffield and the Vaughns—can send a ball on a quick, 400-foot journey at will.

Why does it look so easy in batting practice? Well, because it is. Batting



ABOVE: BP TIME IS ALSO INTERVIEW TIME. BELOW: THE FRUITS OF BATTING-PRACTICE LABOR.



A DOME OF THEIR OWN: STRETCHING IN HOUSTON.



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DIFFERENT STROKES: JEFF BAGWELL (LEFT) USES BP MAINLY TO GET LOOSE, BUT WADE BOGGS (ABOVE) DEPENDS ON IT.



practice pitchers, in fact, are selected for their ability to deliver straight fastballs—without sinking or curving or deceiving the hitter in any way—at approximately 70 mph. The only advantage they give themselves is shortening the distance to the plate to 45 feet, which, hitters say, forces them to react quicker to the ball, thus sharpening their reflexes.

All of this is what makes batting practice the most enjoyable practice session in any professional sport. Football has its dreary midweek drills and game-film sessions. Hockey is known for its brutal conditioning workouts. And the NBA's

calling card is the morning shoot-around the day of a game, scheduled just early enough to make sure that the players aren't out too late the night before.

No, nothing beats the pure pleasure of hitting a ball squarely on the barrel's sweet spot—the fattest part of the bat, about 3 to 4 inches from the top. Even Knoblauch, who devotes 95 per cent of his BP time to specific goals like hitting to the opposite field or pounding line-drives up the middle, admits that, "once in a while, I try to see how far I can really hit it."

That's why the second group—the Nos. 4-5-6 hitters—always offers the best pregame theater. As their time is winding down, they engage in what's known as a "service round." Whoever hits the most home runs in this round is entitled to whatever service he chooses. The stakes generally aren't that prohibitive—"Sometimes all I ever ask for is a Coke or a sandwich," says Ken Griffey—but little games like these that challenge the big league ego can be a dangerous weapon. If a Major Leaguer concentrates, he can generally hit five or six batting-practice home runs in a row, assuming he gets those fastballs in the heart of the strike zone. The Yankees still talk about the show that Darryl Strawberry put on during the

1995 playoffs against the Mariners, hitting eight consecutive blasts into the Kingdome's upper tier. Virtually all pregame activity came to a halt while Strawberry went into another dimension. His teammates stopped taking ground balls, reporters gawked, vendors froze in their tracks in the aisles, and even the Mariners themselves—including Griffey—watched in quiet awe.

Not everyone, of course, believes that such displays are an integral part of a productive BP session. The Chicago Cubs, in fact, adhere to an entirely different philosophy. "What's exciting about seeing someone hit a 50-mph batting-practice pitch for a homer?" asks Cubs hitting coach Tony Muser. "The smart players know that they'll be looking at 90-mph fastballs in the game. They get ready by hitting balls on the ground or to the opposite field."

With this in mind, Muser drastically altered his hitters' batting-practice goals. Of their first 30 swings, 10 must be hit to the opposite field, the next 10 are targeted up the middle, and the last 10 are, finally, allowed to be driven into the seats. And half the time, Muser's system would be used at Wrigley Field, which, like Fenway Park or Camden Yards in Baltimore, has one of the National League's most BP-friendly



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dimensions—a line drive to left-center is almost always a home run. How would someone like Sammy Sosa—pound for pound, one of the strongest men in the NL—really benefit from punching opposite-field singles?

Muser concedes the point (“Things like arbitration and free agency aren’t conducive to teaching this [philosophy], because a guy who hits 25 home runs is going to make his money,” he says), but nevertheless feels that his system is a sound one.

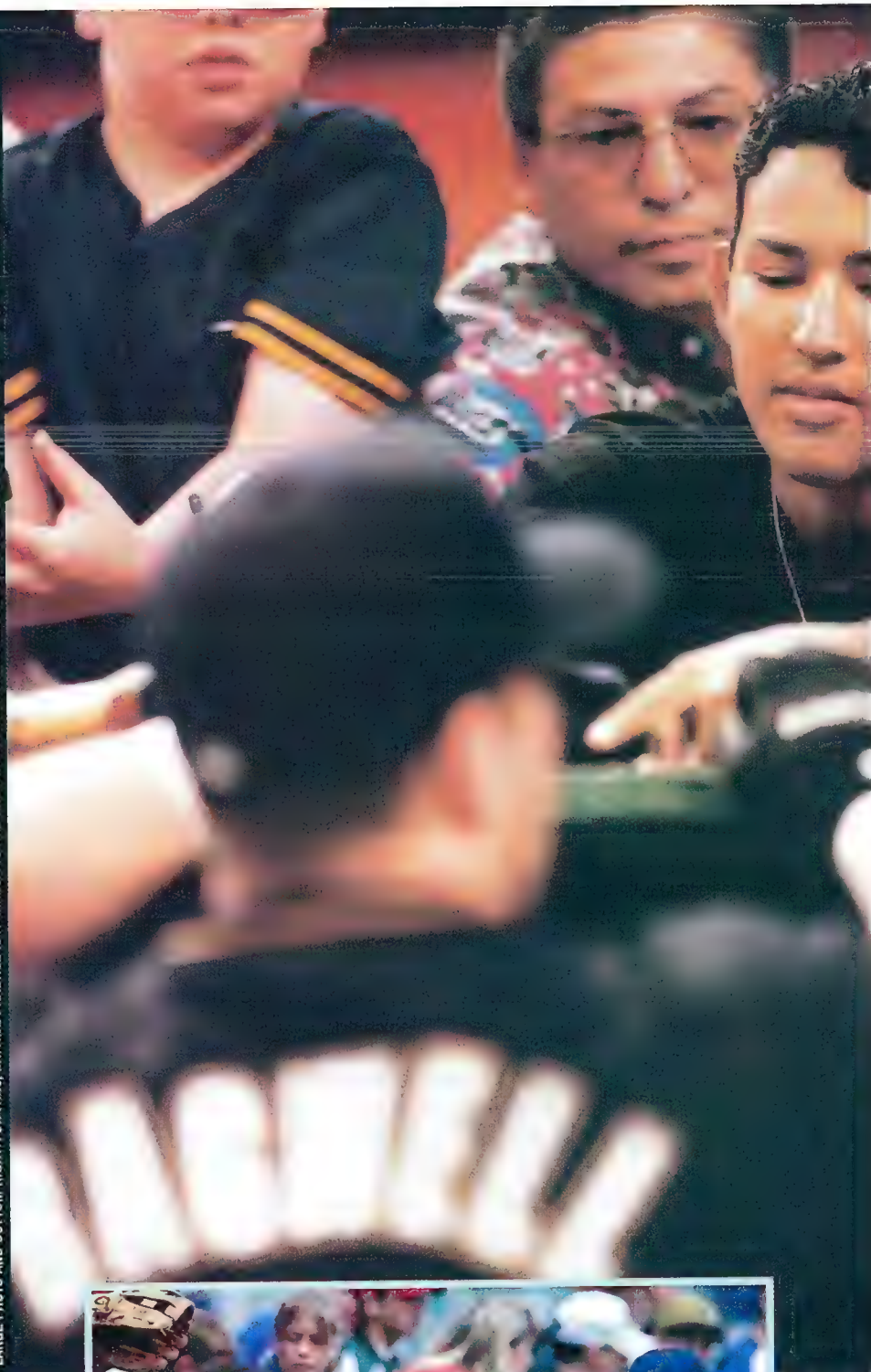
“What we’re trying to do is called winning baseball,” he says. “You ain’t going to beat Greg Maddux with a late-inning homer. You’re going to beat him with a two-out single to right-center. The guy won’t let you beat him with the long ball. There are just some pitchers who don’t give in.”

But if the goal of batting practice is to simulate exact game conditions, why not hire a college kid or an ex-Minor Leaguer to throw as hard as possible? In theory, that would prepare a hitter for that night’s 90-mph fastball, or the biting curveball that no one is currently allowed to throw in BP. Or, extending that logic, why not use a pitching machine, set the speed to 90 mph, and let those synthetic fastballs move along at assembly-line pace?

The reason, says Wade Boggs, is simple. Batting practice isn’t supposed to be a test of hitting skill. “It’s all about timing,” he says. “The idea is to get your hands and your weight-shift in synch with the pitcher’s delivery. That’s why hitting off a machine would never do you any good, because none of that has anything to do with timing. As a hitter, you don’t just time the ball. You start your swing based on the pitcher’s arm and leg kick.”

Watch a BP pitcher sometime and

LARGE PHOTO AND BOTTOM RIGHT: FOR FANS, BATTING PRACTICE IS A CHANCE TO SEE THEIR HEROES IN A MORE RELAXED SETTING. BOTTOM LEFT: AT WRIGLEY FIELD, BP ISN'T ALL HRS FOR THE CUBS.







*Jackie Robinson  
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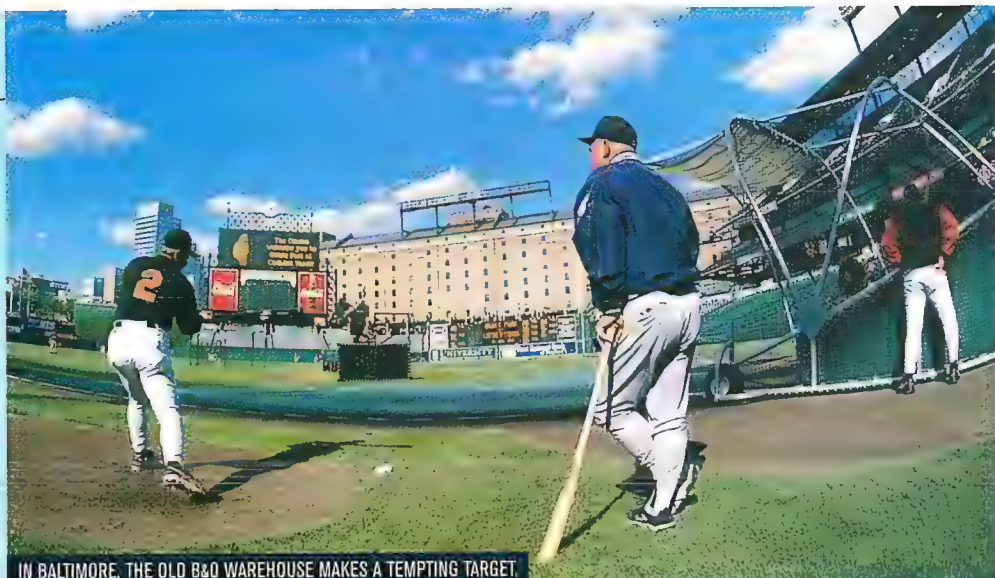
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notice just how open and easy-to-read his delivery is. Most batting-practice pitchers, in fact, don't even use a glove—that's how visible they want the ball to be. The BP pitcher's motion is simple and economical—exactly the opposite of, say, Hideo Nomo's—with a minimum of arm and leg motion and an obvious, over-the-top release point.

"As long as a pitcher is throwing right down the middle, you can work on anything you want, like hitting the ball to the opposite field," says Houston's Jeff Bagwell. "I personally think batting practice is just a matter of getting loose. But if you are working on something, the only way you get anything accomplished is with a good batting-practice pitcher."

And what, exactly, are the credentials needed for such a position? Basically, a durable arm, the ability to throw a straight fastball, and no ego whatsoever. The best batting-practice pitchers allow home runs, angry liners and, at the very least, base hits, one after the other. And since he's only 45 feet away, a BP pitcher is actually a target, which is why he stands behind a protective screen, releasing the ball and ducking to safety in one smooth, instinctive motion.



IN BALTIMORE, THE OLD B&O WAREHOUSE MAKES A TEMPTING TARGET.

In one sense, this might seem like a thrilling exercise for a pitcher, serving 72-mph fastballs to the planet's most powerful hitters—an exercise not unlike feeding lions at the zoo. But for some pitchers, the task can be surprisingly humiliating.

Take, for example, Mel Stottlemyre, a one-time 20-game winner with the Yankees whose specialty was a mean-

spirited, late-moving sinker. Stottlemyre was something akin to a ground-ball factory in the '60s and '70s. The fly ball was his enemy.

But now, as the team's pitching coach and one of their regular batting-practice pitchers, Stottlemyre is paid to let those home runs go screaming into the Bronx sky. "It took a little bit of an adjustment, at first," he admits. "It felt funny to get hit like that, especially by right-handed hitters, because I could always make the ball run inside to them. But I learned."

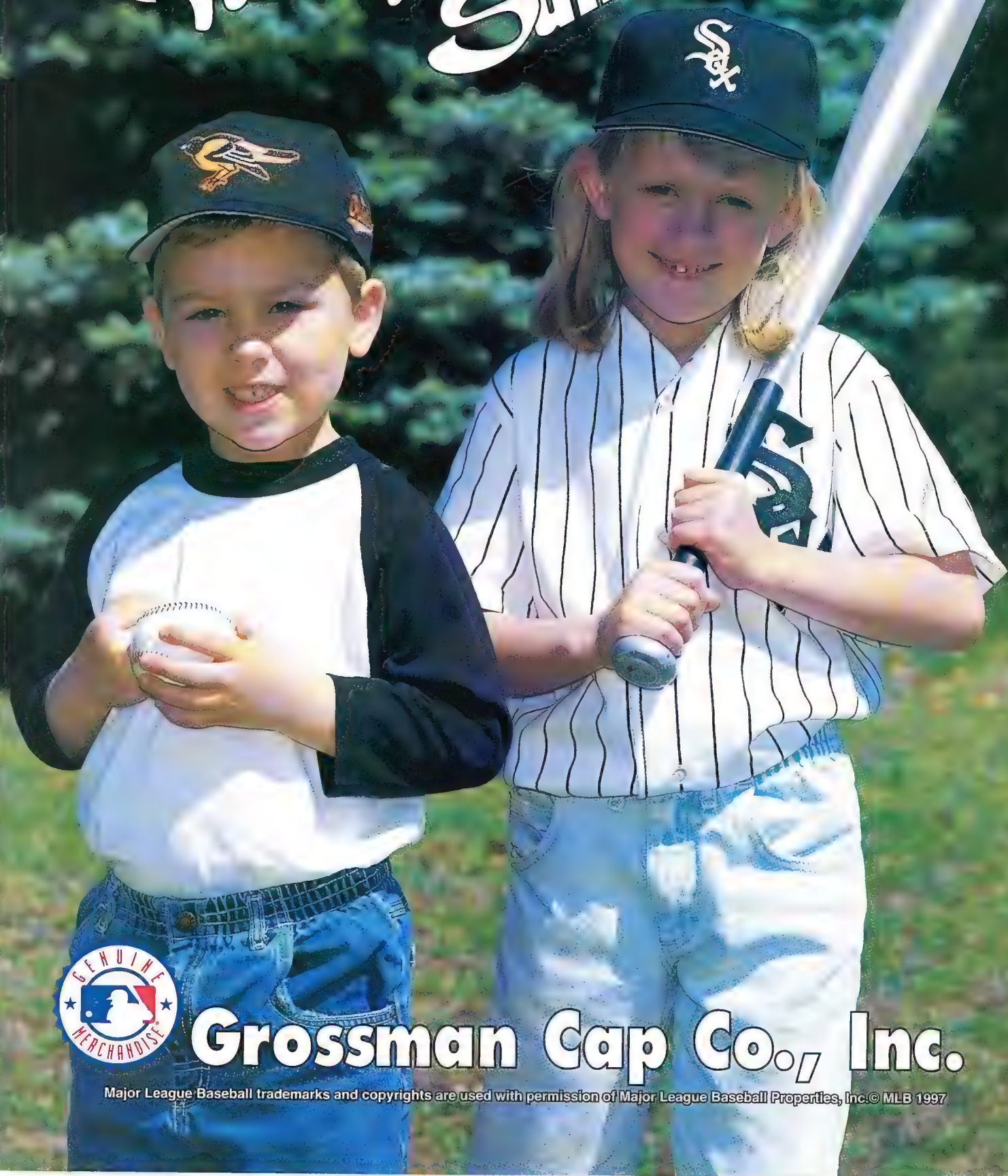
Unlike his days as an American League ace, Stottlemyre no longer suf-



LARGE PHOTO: A BATTING-PRACTICE PITCHER MUST BE DURABLE, ACCURATE—AND WILLING TO GIVE UP LOTS AND LOTS OF HITS. INSET: LINE-PAINTING DUTY CALLS IN HOUSTON.



# The Fans of Summer



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TOP: HANGING OUT ON THE TARP AT CAMDEN YARDS. BELOW, LEFT AND RIGHT: COMMUNING WITH THE EARLY ARRIVALS IN BALTIMORE AND CHICAGO.



fers from the intense, day-after shoulder soreness that followed all of his nine-inning performances. Instead, Stottlemyre—who throws perhaps 100 to 125 batting-practice pitches three or four times a week now—lives with a chronic, dull feeling in his arm. And he isn't even the BP workhorse at Yankee Stadium.

That title belongs to Charlie Wonsowicz, a 28-year-old lefthander and a former All-City high school pitcher from Staten Island who played for two years at St. John's University. "Wonz," as he's known between 4 and 6 p.m., says he's living a dream come true.

"I'm a Yankee fan who gets to pitch to the Yankees every day."

But it's not such a romantic life, especially on the days when the Yankees are slated to face a lefthander. That's when Wonsowicz is asked to throw BP to all three groups, so that all nine hitters in the lineup can acclimate themselves to a southpaw's release point. On the most intense days, Wonsowicz may throw close to 200 pitches.

"Does my arm hurt sometimes?" he says, his eyes rolling gently toward the ceiling. He flashes an expression that says, "don't ask." Still, for Wonsowicz,

the pain is a small price to pay for the privilege of seeing the Yankees hit his pitches—even though, as a BP pitcher, Wonsowicz makes far less than half the Major League minimum salary and is hardly a public figure.

But that's not to say that he goes unappreciated by the Yankees—Wonsowicz did, after all, receive a World Series ring. If nothing else, that certainly proves that a brilliant scientist is only as good as his lab technician. ★

*Bob Klapisch is a veteran baseball writer based in New Jersey.*





# Hangin' with the All-Stars

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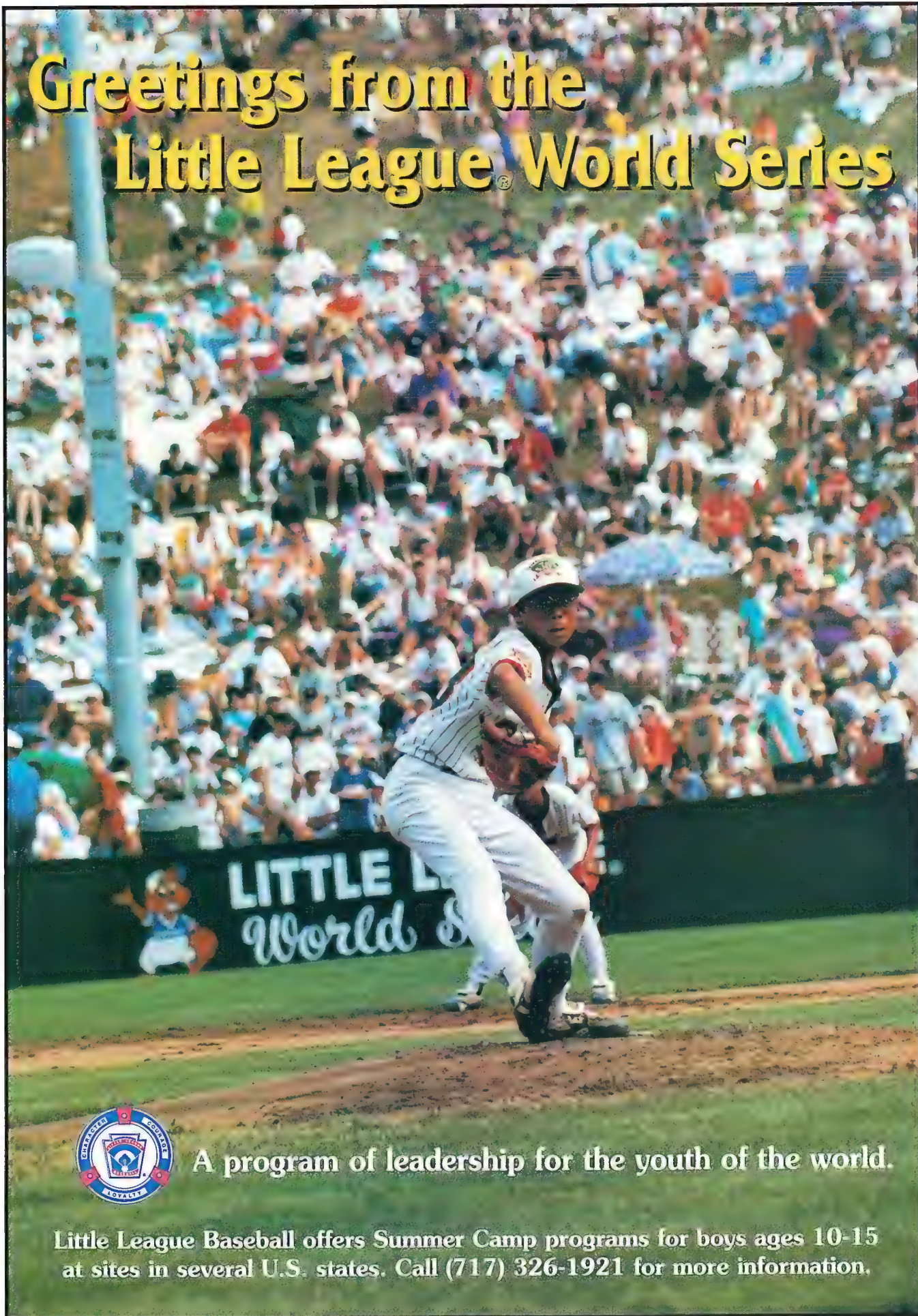
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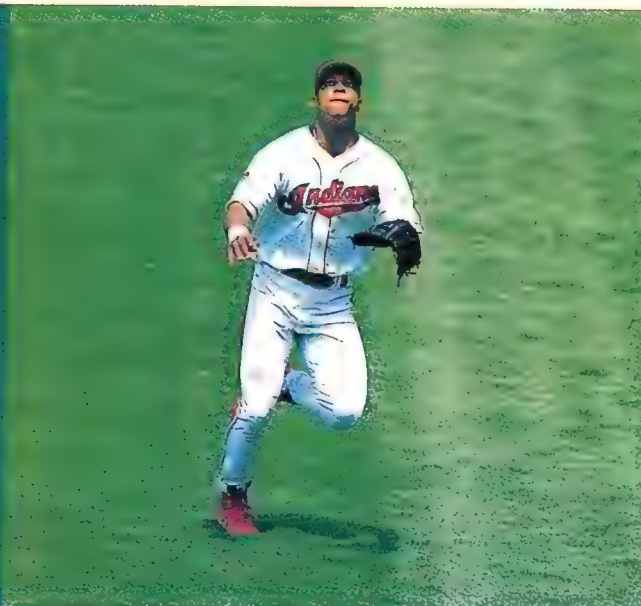
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# T H I N K I N G

In the graveyard of baseball boxscores lie the long-forgotten names of countless great athletes who just didn't get it.

Elite speed, strength, jumping ability and dexterity can pave a road to success in many other sports, but baseball is perhaps the most unforgiving to those who fail to "think the game."

From the carefully choreographed techniques of a defensive position to the subtle complexities of the pitcher-batter ballet...from the pressure of millions of fans demanding perfection to the coping mechanisms required to play a sport that doles out torrents of failure even to its superstars, baseball is a diabolical dance of intellect.

All the action of a typical contest is compressed into perhaps seven minutes. But the game is truly mastered—and often won—in the two or three hours spent in anticipation of the next pitch. Alone with his thoughts, a player can ultimately succeed...or succumb.

To illuminate this cerebral side of baseball, we discussed the topic with three of the game's biggest stars, asking each to take us "inside his head" as it relates to one of their specific baseball roles. John Smoltz talks about pitching, Mike Piazza talks about catching and Bernie Williams shares his thoughts on hitting.





# BASEBALL

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## john smoltz

A pitcher of enormous promise as he rose through the Detroit, then Atlanta, systems, John Smoltz at first seemed unable to translate that ability into victories. Entering the 1991 season, his career record—despite an electric fastball, a wide repertoire of pitches and streaks of unhittability—stood at 28-29.

That season Smoltz, then 28, began to consult a sports psychologist. After tracing his problem to diffi-

culties in dealing with adversity and failure, and then incorporating visualization and recollection techniques, he reversed the course of his career. He has had only one losing season since then (an injury-sabotaged '94), and he won the Cy Young Award for his 24-8 performance last year.

**What is your perspective on the mental part of pitching?**

The mental part takes over when you're physically not able to do the job. I went through some tough times physically. There was a three-year period in which I was not able to perform to the level I would have liked. But because I'm not afraid to fail anymore, I can perform now whether I'm at 30 percent, 70 percent or 100 percent physically. I've also been able to get to a point over the last few years where I've stopped trying to please other people.

**How does a Major League pitcher deal with failure?** You just persevere. You're out there only once every five days, so you have to give your total effort each time you pitch. Since I don't worry about failure, that allows me to be aggressive, to go after people, and to succeed in situations that might be called "pressure." But pressure is just what you choose to put on yourself.

**What's going through your mind on the mound? Is it scouting report-type stuff?** All I think about is making my best effort on every single pitch. I've come to accept that you can't make a perfect pitch every time, and I've stopped second-guessing myself about doing more than I'm capable of doing. I've learned I can only control how hard they hit the ball. I can't control where they hit it, and I can't strike out everybody.

**At some point, though, you must be thinking about what pitches to throw to certain guys in certain situations.** Yeah, but not really on a pitch-to-pitch basis. I already have the scouting reports in my

mind. I'm more focused on just making good pitches, making them adjust to me.

**What exactly is the dynamic between a pitcher and catcher in making pitch-to-pitch decisions?** What you like to have is a pitcher and catcher who know each other's tendencies. Our pitchers pretty much call their own pitches. But you want two guys working on the same page. [Braves' catcher] Javier Lopez knows my tendencies pretty well, but I'm not going to throw a pitch I'm not a hundred percent sure of.

**You're 20 pitches into a game and there's three miles per hour missing from your fastball, or you don't have the rotation on the curve you want or the bite on the slider. How do you deal with that?** I think about how I'm going to get through this game and fool these hitters into thinking I've got good stuff. Or I call upon my "makeup" to show them that I *look* like I'm going to win this game. You have to... I don't want to say fake your way through—but you have to let hitters know that you're not bothered by anything, that you're still going to make good pitches. The hard part is that you're taught how to get hitters out with your best stuff, but not how to do get them out without it. I've had to learn that myself.

**What did you learn from the time you spent with a sports psychologist?** I learned that when things go bad, you just have to step back and let go of them. With some people, when things don't go their way, their actions become quicker, quicker, quicker, and they try harder, harder, harder, and they actually end up doing worse, worse, worse. I've learned that you have to try to slow things down, eliminate the bad and always remember the good.



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**What "good" do you remember?** I remember that, no matter how old you are, you're still playing the same game you played when you were seven years old. The business of the game has changed, but not the object. When I step over the line, I believe I'm living a childhood dream. I've already played a million World Series games in my mind, or played them by throwing a ball against a wall, so when I get in what seems like an ultimate pressure situation—like the Post Season—that's when I have fun.

**Given your repertoire, what is your perfect sequence to set up a batter and strike him out?** Against a righthander, it would be to establish my fastball either in or out. And then I'd like to get him with a slider in the dirt or a slider he doesn't recognize. Against a lefthander, I'll also establish the fastball, but mix in a splitfinger or a changeup to keep him off balance.

**Who's tougher to face—a hitter like Tony Gwynn, who thinks along with you, or a "see-ball/hit-ball" kind of guy?** The guys that give me trouble are the ones who are going to wait me out, be patient and slap the ball the other way. I'm an aggressive pitcher and I like to face an aggressive hitter. There is a danger that an aggressive hitter can make you look real bad, but the patient ones tend to wear you out and make you throw more pitches.

**Do factors such as weather, or the fact that you're pitching in a hitter's park like Coors Field, have an effect on how you approach your craft?** Wind and rain do. The biggest thing is the grip on the ball. If I don't feel I have a good grip, I don't feel like I can do much. But I don't worry about different parks.

**What's the one thing about the art of pitching that fans least understand?** That it changes from inning to inning. You can be absolutely cruising then have it completely fall apart. You might make a mistake, or the defense might. That's the nature of the beast. But your job is to get 27 outs no matter how you get 'em. You might get 27 outs in the weirdest, hardest ways, like when they hit bullets at people. And there are tough-luck days full of bloopers and bleeders. There is a lot more to winning a baseball game than people think.

**There are other pitchers in this game who basically have your stuff and your repertoire, but there's a big gap in performance. What accounts for that?** In my opinion, it's the failure aspect—the fear of failing.

Even great players sometimes fail in pressure situations because they try to do too much. I've been there. But if you're not afraid to overcome failure, you're always going to be successful.



**Catchers may wear, as the old saying goes, the "tools of ignorance," but the reality is that catching is more intellectually demanding than any other position. Catchers must digest scouting reports, call pitches, act as pitching psychologists and direct infield traffic.**

**As the 1,390th player chosen in the 1989 draft, the Dodgers' Mike Piazza was an unlikely candidate for stardom.**

**Yet four years later, he was named NL Rookie of the Year, and he's since finished in the top 10 in MVP voting four times. Known primarily for his bat, Piazza has developed into a fine defensive catcher—with his help, the Dodger staff has had one of the league's three lowest ERAs in three of his four full seasons.**

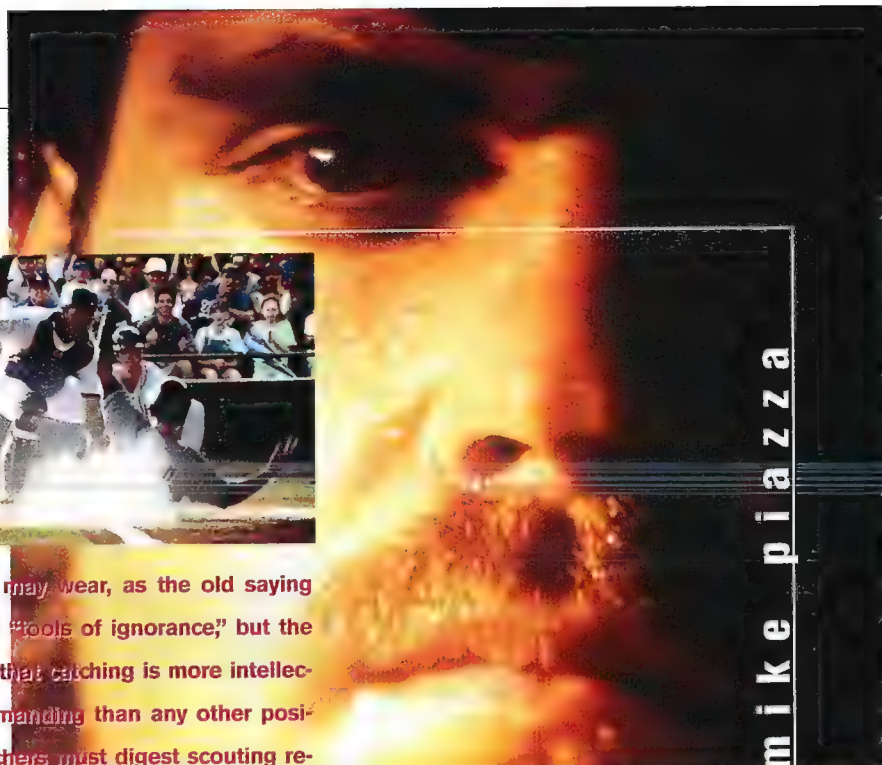
**How do you prepare mentally to catch a game?** I go over some scouting reports, but about 10 minutes before a game, I go out to the line to run sprints. Doing that is like turning a switch on and off for me to get mentally prepared for the game.

**Is that where you get your "game face?"** It's just a matter of slipping into a state of concentration and turning into someone who has a job to do. Right before the game, I become a very focused, tense, loner type of guy. I'm not looking to be social, to see people in the stands or to wave to the cameras; I'm out there to do a job to the best of my ability.

**How do you get on a pitcher's wavelength—how do you get a feel for what he's got working for him?** It's a matter of getting into a rhythm early. But sometimes you never get on the same page. He may be struggling, and you may be struggling to find what works. If that happens, you're constantly testing your abilities as a catcher to find ways out of a situation. That's a matter of maturity and being able to adapt to someone else's personality.

**Does that part of the game come easily to you?** Not necessarily, but it's come easier the last few years. The first couple of years I was just trying to get established, but now I understand my responsibilities better. I understand now what effect that kind of thing has on the team's success.

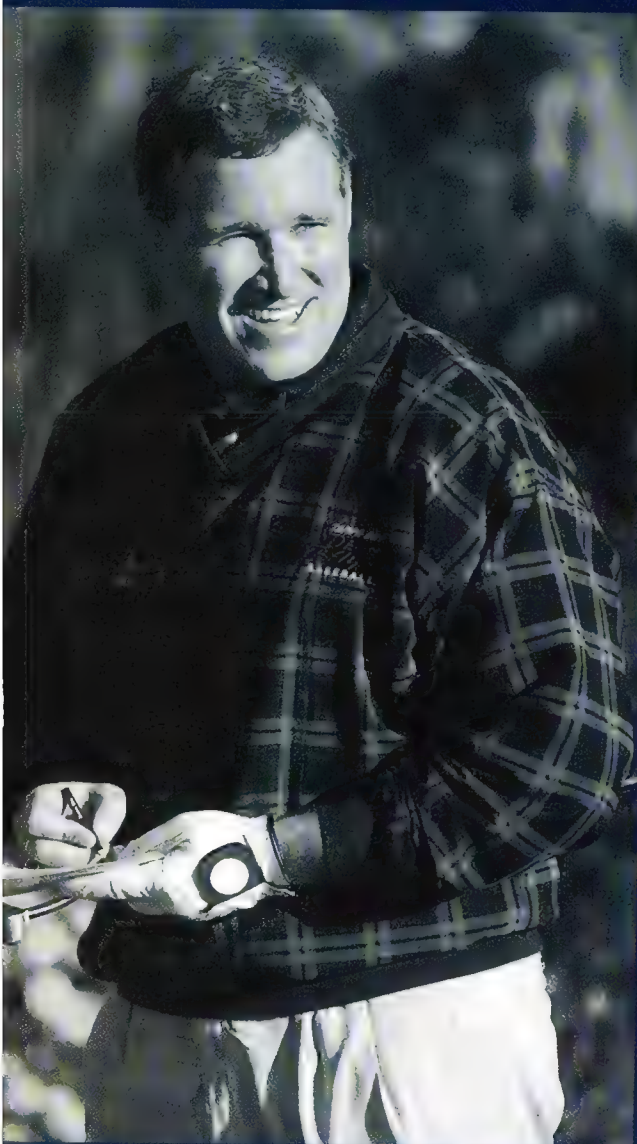
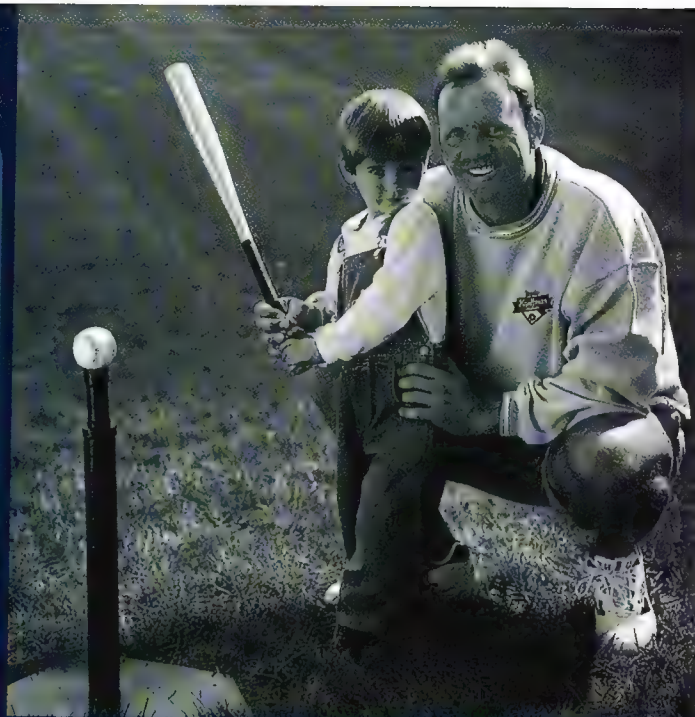
**What is your style in handling pitchers, especially on days when things aren't going so well?** It's very important not to put anybody down when they're having a bad day. Everyone has bad days; I have bad days, and I don't need anybody to tell me that I'm bad. Pitchers are the same way. So I'm constantly trying to build them up and support them through tough situations and give them some confidence. It's not rocket science, but there's a lot of diplomacy involved.





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**As a catcher, what exactly are you thinking about back there between pitches?** I'd say you're probably two pitches ahead, not much more than that. When you're in a jam, you try to take it pitch by pitch. But with no one on, I'm a pitch or two ahead in my mind. And I don't mean trying to plot a way to get a strikeout, but just trying to get the guy out in the fewest pitches to conserve your pitcher's energy.

**We hear about "smart" pitchers and "smart" catchers. Who should get the most credit here?** It's teamwork. But the pitcher still has to go out and execute the pitch. There's no shortcut to that, so if he does that, I'd have to give him 90 percent of the credit. Now, maybe I'll spot a hitter looking for a particular location and try to go away from that, or I might know the hitter and can do some thinking for the pitcher. That's my 10 percent.

**Are there subtle things happening back there that fans don't know about—maybe guys peeking at your signs or location?** You're always looking out for that; it's part of the game. If you catch a guy doing it, you just tell him right off the bat that it's not going to be tolerated. But I respect the hitter's job. I'm not out there trying to distract him or get in his head. I know when I'm hitting, I don't want anybody messing with me. Some catchers try to talk a lot to hitters, to set them up for certain things. I think that's bush league. If a catcher tries to do that to me, I tell him basically to shut up.

**Coming out of high school, you were considered an "NP"—"no prospect." Aside from all the hard work, what have you had to do mentally to achieve the success that you have?** I think I've had the unique ability to separate things. I've been able to not put pressure on myself and to enjoy the game, while at the same time be very committed to improving.

**Are there times when you battle yourself?** I can honestly say I've never really had a loss of confidence. I get frustrated, but I never lose my confidence. If you lose your confidence, you might as well just quit; you have nothing.

**What's the most difficult part of your job?** The position is just so difficult, it's extremely hard to be consistent. Over 140-150 games, you're going to have injuries, you're going to have fundamental breakdowns, you just get tired. The endurance required by the position is a challenge.

**Have there been times when you thought, 'I'm tired. I'm hurting. I don't know if I can go out there'?** Of course. Probably every day. But for some reason, in that 10 minutes before a game, I flick on that switch. If I'm only 90 percent, I play with 90 percent. If I'm 75 percent, I play with 75. It sounds kind of weird, but you just deal with it.

**What would you tell a kid who says he wants to be a Major League catcher?** (Laughs) I'd tell him to play another position.



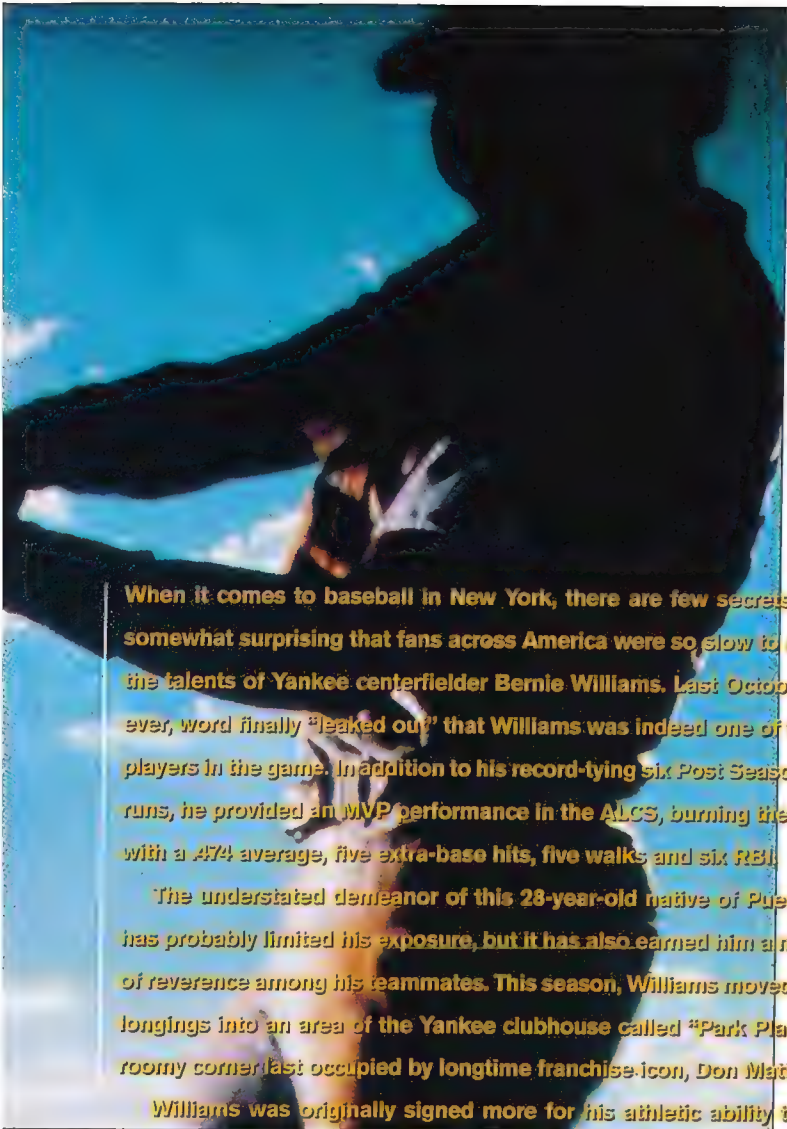
**Where are your thoughts in the 30 to 60 minutes before a game?** I'm still taking a nap. Seriously, I'm just relaxing, maybe lying down somewhere, thinking a little bit about the pitcher and what he may do to try to get me out.

**If you're contemplating the opposing pitcher, what information is going through your mind, and where does it come from?** Our advance scouts supply us with information about the pitchers, but for me, it comes mostly from my own experience. If I've faced a guy before, I know what he likes to throw and what he wants to do to get me out.

**Does your approach to hitting change according to specific factors, such as the weather, park or pitcher?** Field conditions never change my approach, but pitchers do. I'm not going to approach Roger Clemens the same way I might [retired knuckleballer] Charlie Hough. For a softer thrower, I'm more willing to wait for a strike. But for a guy like Roger, who's painting corners and throwing hard, you have to be aggressive. And there are lots of types of pitchers in between.

**Are there certain pitchers who get inside your head and make you struggle, and others against whom you feel exceptionally comfortable?** Yes, but your approach has to be the same for each. If there's a pitcher you struggle against, you take it as a personal challenge. You have to make that adjustment to find a way to hit him. On the other hand, you can't get comfortable against pitchers you've had success against. There's always a





When it comes to baseball in New York, there are few secrets. So it's somewhat surprising that fans across America were so slow to discover the talents of Yankee centerfielder Bernie Williams. Last October, however, word finally "leaked out" that Williams was indeed one of the best players in the game. In addition to his record-tying six Post Season home runs, he provided an MVP performance in the ALCS, burning the Orioles with a .474 average, five extra-base hits, five walks and six RBIs.

The understated demeanor of this 28-year-old native of Puerto Rico has probably limited his exposure, but it has also earned him a measure of reverence among his teammates. This season, Williams moved his belongings into an area of the Yankee clubhouse called "Park Place"—the roomy corner last occupied by longtime franchise icon, Don Mattingly.

Williams was originally signed more for his athletic ability than his baseball skills. He has had to learn to hit, and it was not until his 10th professional season, in 1995, that all the pieces fell in place. No small part of that process was his ability to grasp the psychological aspect of the art of hitting. We discussed that process with him.

doubt in your mind: Can I do it again? The key in either situation is to just do your homework, be prepared mentally and physically, and go out there and let it happen.

What's tougher, staying on an even keel mentally, or keeping your physical hitting mechanics together? They kind of go together. When I'm not doing well, I work so hard on my mechanics that it actually relaxes me mentally. I know I've worked so hard that I don't have to think about it. So much of this game is preparation. You don't have much time to think when you're out there. You see the play and you react accordingly. If you prepare well, you'll react well.

Is the mental part of preparation a formal, step-by-step process you go through? Not exactly, but I like to visualize a lot. I see myself taking the right steps and hitting the ball hard.

While you're at the plate? No, not really—it's more often before the game or when I'm at home. It usually starts with a flashback from an at-bat I've had, and then I start thinking about what I need to do better next time. I do this not just for hitting, but also for fielding, throwing and even running.

You seem to have defined habits at the plate—you dig your back foot in, you tap the plate two times, you get into a little rocking motion. Are you aware of that? I try to stay in a routine, but I usually don't think about it when I'm up there. I've got my mind on so many things—the game situation, the signals, figuring out what the pitcher's trying to do. What you're talking about just seems to come naturally. But if I do the same things, it does seem to relax me.

How would you explain the fact that you're a good hitter from the left side but a great hitter from the right? From the left, I'm more mechanical—I'm always looking at technique and form because it's not my natural side. I just became a switch-hitter in my second year of pro ball. Maybe I think too much from the left side. It's a totally different story from the right. I see the ball and hit it, and don't really think too much about it. And most of the lefties I see are finesse pitchers, while there are more hard-throwing righties. Maybe I see the ball better against the finesse guys.

Tell me about clutch situations. What happens inside, and how do you handle the pressure? I tend to focus a little bit more with the game on the line. But I try not to think about the importance of the situation—I just try to stay focused on what I have to do. Bottom of the ninth...tie game...winning run on second base...I don't think in terms of 'I gotta get that guy in.' I'm thinking, 'I gotta stay back, concentrate and hit the ball hard.' That puts the focus on myself, instead of on the situation.

Are you a "guess" hitter? Do you try to outthink the pitcher? I'd have to say no. But if it's a pitcher whom I've faced a number of times, it's always somewhere in the back of my mind that he'll throw a certain pitch when he gets in trouble. Or if the count is 2-0, 3-1, 3-0, for example, I'll be expecting a fastball from a fastball pitcher. Overall, though, I just like to stay back and see the rotation of the ball before I swing. The percentages involved in guessing just aren't that good. And it's so frustrating when you guess wrong, instead of just reacting.

You've improved remarkably over the years, and I assume that's more than just physical. I've learned to take what the pitcher gives me and to stop trying to hit home runs all the time. I've learned that if a tough pitcher keeps painting the outside corner, you don't want to always try to pull the ball. And I've gotten the confidence in myself to say, 'Well, you got me this time, but I'll get you next time.' But at the same time, you have to accept that this is a funny game. Just when you think you're at the top of your game, all of a sudden—Pow!—it gets you, and you wonder what happened.

How do you cope with that? You just can't lose confidence in your ability—not that you brag to everybody, but you just have to believe in yourself. I think confidence is the most important thing. If you don't have it, they'll chew you up. ★

Bruce Herman is a freelance writer and editor who is based in St. Petersburg, Florida.



# ALL STAR MEMORIES

AS THE 88TH MIDSUMMER CLASSIC GETS UNDERWAY AT JACOBS FIELD IN CLEVELAND, WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FITTING TO TAKE A LOOK BACK AT SOME OF THE MEMORABLE MOMENTS FROM SEVEN DECADES OF ALL-STAR GAME EXCITEMENT.



## THE FIRST HOMER

1933: The baseball gods couldn't have planned it any better. With one man on in the bottom of the third at Comiskey Park in Chicago, George Herman "Babe" Ruth hits the first home run in All-Star Game history. Ruth, who at 38 is just two years away from retirement, also robs Cincinnati's Chick Hafey of a hit with a spectacular catch in the eighth inning. Ruth's Yankee teammate, Lefty Gomez, starts the game for the American League and becomes the All-Star Game's first winning pitcher in the 4-2 AL victory.

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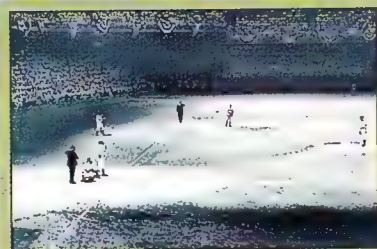
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## A REAL FAN FEST

1984: National League starter Carl Hubbell (inset below, left, with Lefty Gomez) shows that hitting can steal the show when he strikes out Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Jerome Fox, Al Simmons and Joe Cronin in order in the last two innings. The NL is unable to hold the lead once Hubbell leaves the game, however, and eventually loses the game, 4-7.



## UNDER THE LIGHTS

1943: The first All-Star Game under the lights is played at Philadelphia's Shibe Park. The American League, managed by the Yankees' Joe McCarthy, defeats the NL, 5-3.

## THE BARRIER IS BROKEN



1949: Two years after Jackie Robinson and Larry Doby break into the Major Leagues, African-Americans play in the All-Star Game for the first time. Left to right: Roy Campanella, Larry Doby, Don Newcombe and Jackie Robinson. The American League wins the game, 11-7.



## TED'S MISERABLE ADVENTURE

1950: Playing in the eighth of his 16 All-Star Games, Red Sox outfielder Ted Williams crashes into the scoreboard at Comiskey Park in Chicago in the first inning of the 1950 Midsummer Classic. Williams, who had just snared a line drive off the bat of Pittsburgh's Ralph Kiner, broke his left elbow in the mishap and would end up playing only 89 games that year. The 1950 game was also notable because it was the first extra-innings affair in All-Star Game history, with the National League grabbing the win in 14 innings, 4-3.

## STAN THE MAN

1955: In the greatest comeback in All-Star Game history, St. Louis' Stan Musial—who would go on to appear in an amazing 20 consecutive Midsummer Classics—homers to right field in the bottom of the 12th inning off Frank Sullivan of the Red Sox to give the National League a thrilling 6-5 victory at Milwaukee County Stadium. In the large photo at right, Detroit outfielder Al Kaline watches Musial's ball sail into a crowd of excited fans. In the inset, Musial (left) is congratulated by National League pitcher and teammate Robin Roberts.





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### PHABULOUS PHILLIE

1964: With two men on base in the ninth inning and the American League leading, 4-3, Johnny Callison of the Philadelphia Phillies takes a Dick Radatz fastball deep over the right-field fence at brand-new Shea Stadium, giving the National League an amazing 7-4 comeback victory.

### HE'S...SAFE!

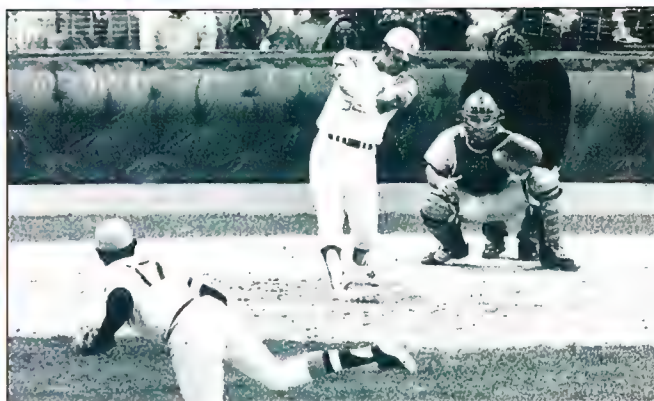
1966: With the score tied in the bottom of the ninth in a pitcher's duel, Cardinals catcher Tim McCarver—playing in his first All-Star Game in front of a cheering home crowd at newly opened Busch Stadium in St. Louis—singles to right and advances to second base on a sacrifice. When Dodgers stolen-base king Maury Wills (inset, right) steps up and raps a single to right field, McCarver races around third and slides home under a high throw with the National League's winning run.



### A CRUSHING BLOW



1970: Thanks to Brock Robinson's two-run triple, the American League takes a 4-1 lead into the bottom of the ninth. But on the strength of a Dick Dietz solo home run, three more singles and a sacrifice fly, the Nationals put up three runs and force extra innings. That sets the stage for one of the most dramatic and controversial plays in All-Star Game history. After singling in front of the home crowd in Cincinnati and moving to second on Billy Grabarkewitz' single, Cincinnati's Pete Rose races home on yet another single by Jim Hickman. Without slowing down, Rose barrels into Indians catcher Ray Fosse, jarring the ball loose and giving the National League a 5-4 win.



### MR. JULY

1971: What happens when the wind is blowing out at an All-Star Game? Exactly what happened at Detroit's Tiger Stadium. Six future Hall of Famers—Johnny Bench, Hank Aaron, Reggie Jackson, Frank Robinson, Harmon Killebrew and Roberto Clemente—homer in the game to account for every run scored by both teams. Jackson's blast, however, is especially memorable. With one on in the bottom of the third, the A's slugger (above) rips a Dock Ellis pitch into a light tower on the roof of Tiger Stadium—520 feet from home plate! Below, Jackson is greeted by AL teammate Don Buford.



UPI/CORBIS-BETTMAN (CALLISON, WILLS, ROSE (6)), JACKSON IN DUGOUT; AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (McCARVER, JACKSON BATTING)





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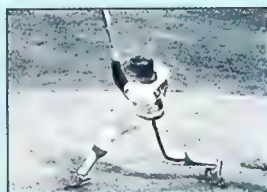


1980: Cincinnati's Ken Griffey, Sr., (inset, above) is mobbed by his National League teammates after he puts the NL on the board with a solo shot off New York's Tommy John in the bottom of the fifth. Griffey's is the first of four National League runs, which gives the Senior Circuit a 4-2 come-from-behind victory.

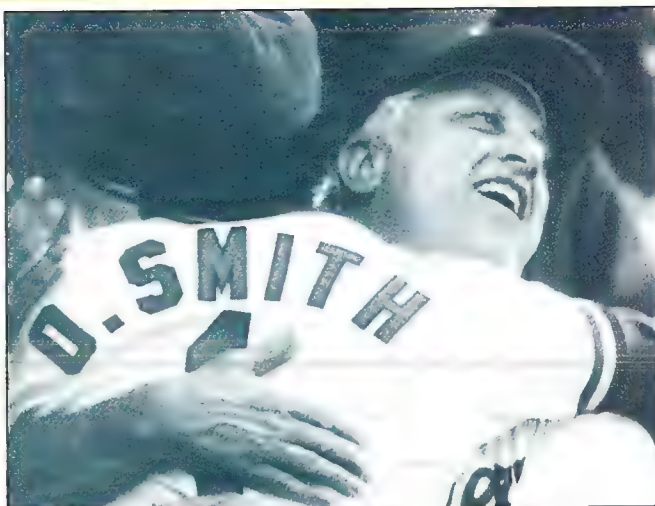
1992: As proof that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree, Ken Griffey Jr. homers off Greg Maddux in the third inning of the 1992 All-Star Game at San Diego-Jack Murphy Stadium (large photo, above). Junior's dinger helps the American League romp to a 13-6 win.

## THE 50-YEAR ITCH

1983: As hard as it may be to believe, not one grand slam was hit in the first half-century of All-Star Game play. But on the 50th anniversary of the Midsummer Classic, in the place where it all started in 1933—Comiskey Park—California's Fred Lynn ends the drought. With the bases loaded in the third, Lynn (above and below) rips one into the stands for his fourth All-Star Game home run.



In that inning, the American League sets All-Star Game records for runs (7) and hits (6) in one inning and goes on to blast the NL, 13-3.



## THE WIZARD OF "AHHHS"

1982: National League manager Tommy Lasorda hugs Ozzie Smith, whose amazing stop and throw to first with two men on in the eighth inning helps preserve the National League's 4-1 victory at Olympic Stadium in Montreal. Smith made hundreds of show-stopping, high-light-reel plays during his 19-year career, and the All-Star Game was no exception. In his 13th Midsummer Classic in 1994, Smith's glove saved the day again. He grabbed a line drive off the bat of Minnesota's Chuck Knoblauch and forced the runner at second base, preventing the American League, which held a 7-5 lead, from adding an insurance run. As it turned out, the National League tied the game in the ninth inning and then won it in the 10th, 8-7.

## SMOKIN'!

1984: On the 50th anniversary of Carl Hubbell's five consecutive All-Star Game appearances, Los Angeles' Fernando Valenzuela and Dwight Gooden of the Mets combine to go Hubbell one better at Comiskey Park in San Francisco. In the top of the fourth, Valenzuela belts down Mue-Hall at home of future Hall of Fame pitcher Dave Winfield. Ingie Jackson and George Brett, Ted, are lining later. Gooden, at 19, is the youngest player in All-Star Game history—take care of the next three American League National League Pinstripes, Cal Lemon and Arvin Davis. Thanks in part to Valenzuela and Gooden, the National League goes on to win the game, 4-1.



UPI/CORBIS-BETTMAN (GRIFFEY, SR., LYNN (2)); AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (SMITH/LASORDA); ZAGARIS/MLB PHOTOS (GRIFFEY, JR.)

PILLING/MLB PHOTOS (VALENZUELA); MLB PHOTOS (GOODEN)



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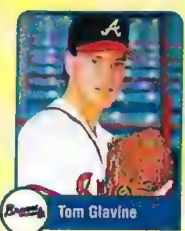
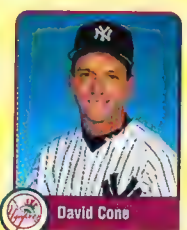
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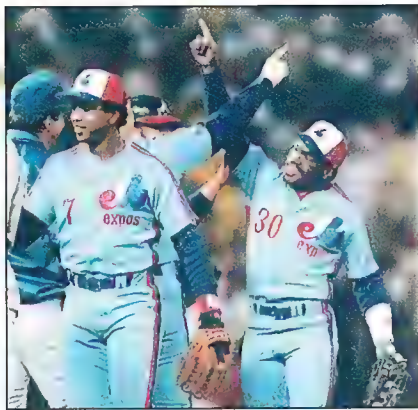


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### RAINES REIGNS

1987: No previous All-Star Game had gone more than five innings without a run being scored, but the 1987 contest at Oakland-Alameda County Stadium is a pitcher's duel in every sense of the word, remaining scoreless through 12 innings. Scoreless, that is, until Montreal's Tim Raines (number 30, above) triples in two runs in the top of the 13th inning to put the National League ahead to stay, 2-0.

### OLD, BUT GOOD



1989: Not to be outdone by 40-year-old National League starter Rick Reuschel, 42-year-old Texas Ranger Nolan Ryan fires one of his patented fastballs through the July heat at Anaheim Stadium, where he pitched for eight seasons with the Angels. Not only is Ryan, at 42, the oldest player on either side, but the two shutout innings that he throws also help him become the oldest pitcher ever to win a Midsummer Classic, as the American League All-Stars edge the Nationals, 5-3.

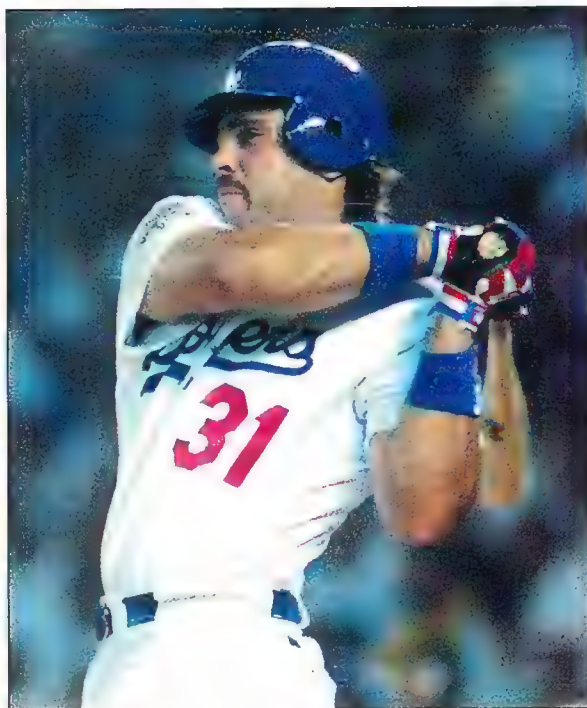
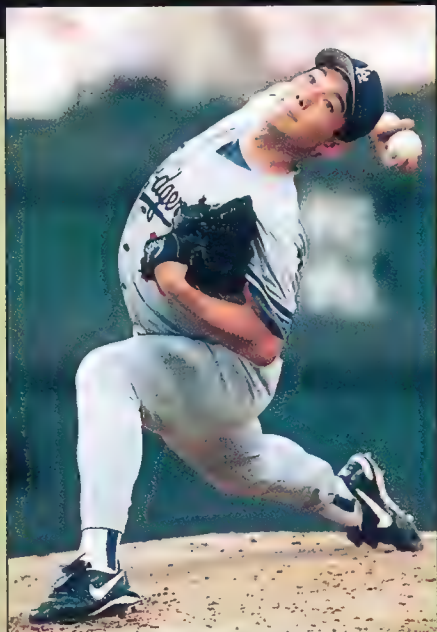
### HE'S GWYNN HOME!



1994: With two weeks left, T.L. is the center of the fire at the Oakland-Alameda County Stadium in Philadelphia. Tony Stewart makes the first of two strikes from Reuschel to end the 12th inning, giving the NL a 2-0 lead. The 1987 All-Star Game is all the time, ending with a walk to center and a home run to drive in the winning run.

### ALL-WORLD STAR

1995: Dodgers' hurler Hideo Nomo is the center of the excitement at The Ballpark in Arlington, Texas. Nomo, who goes on to win 1995 Rookie-of-the-Year honors, becomes the first Japanese player to appear in the Midsummer Classic, and is also the first rookie to start an All-Star Game since Fernando Valenzuela took the mound for the National League in 1981. Nomo pitches well, allowing just one hit in two innings and striking out three batters in a hard-fought, 3-2 NL win.



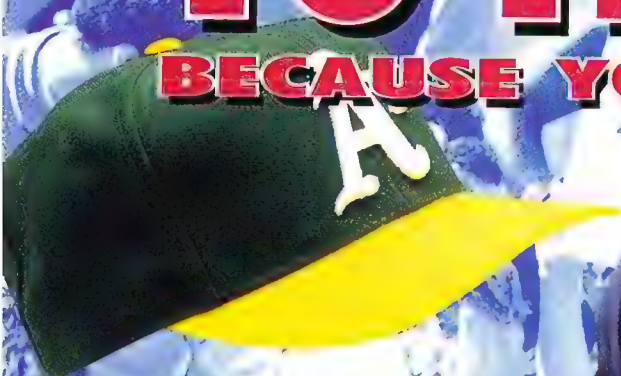
### PIAZZA DELIVERY

1996: Dodgers' catcher Mike Piazza, who grew up in nearby Norristown, Pennsylvania, enjoys quite a homecoming at Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia. Piazza nails a 445-foot home run off Cleveland's Charles Nagy his first time up, then doubles home the NL's fourth run off Chuck Finley in his second at-bat to go 2 for 3 and earn the game's Most Valuable Player Award. In the first All-Star Game ever in which neither pitching staff issues a walk, the National League shuts out the AL, 6-0.



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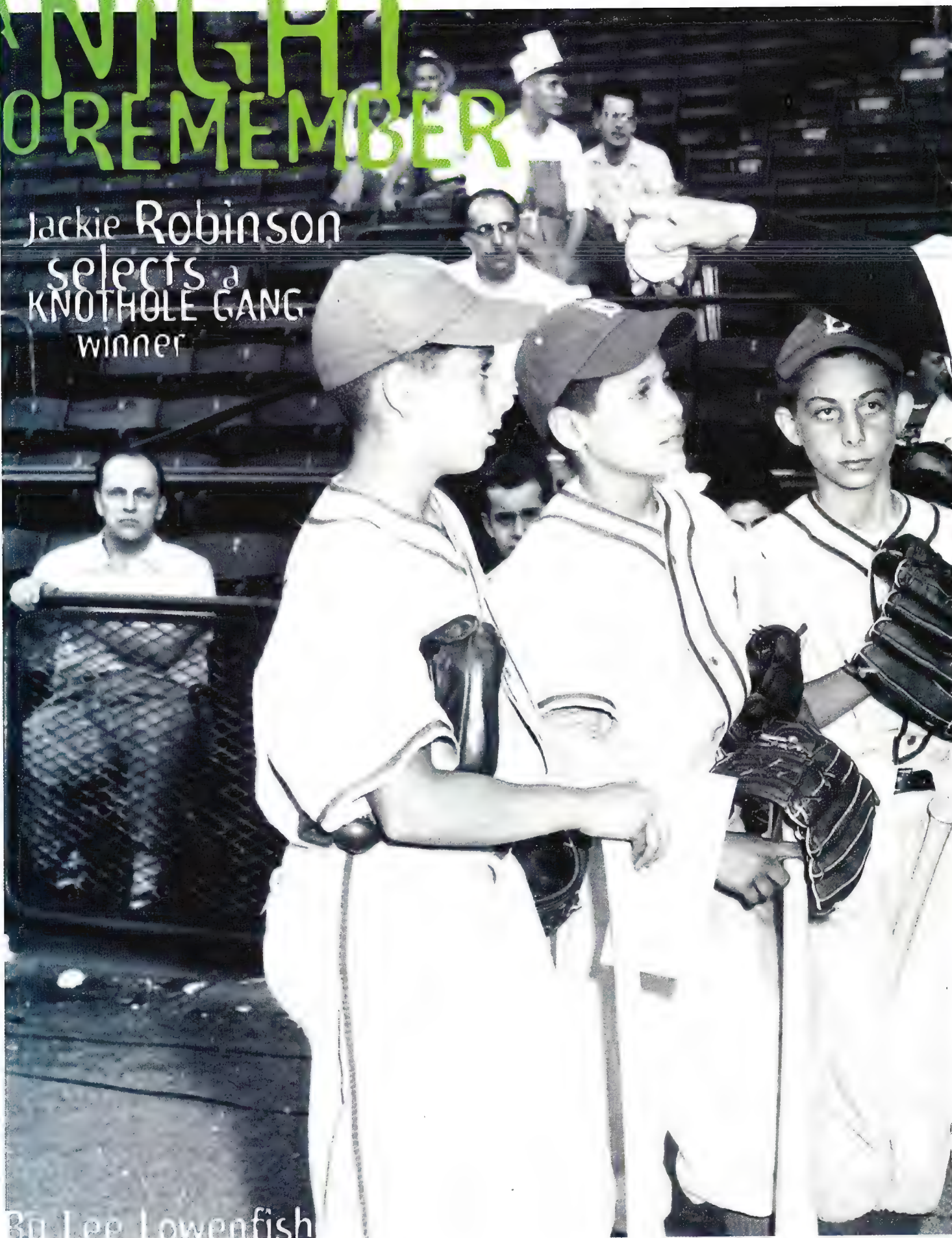


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# A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Jackie Robinson  
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By Lee Lowenfisch

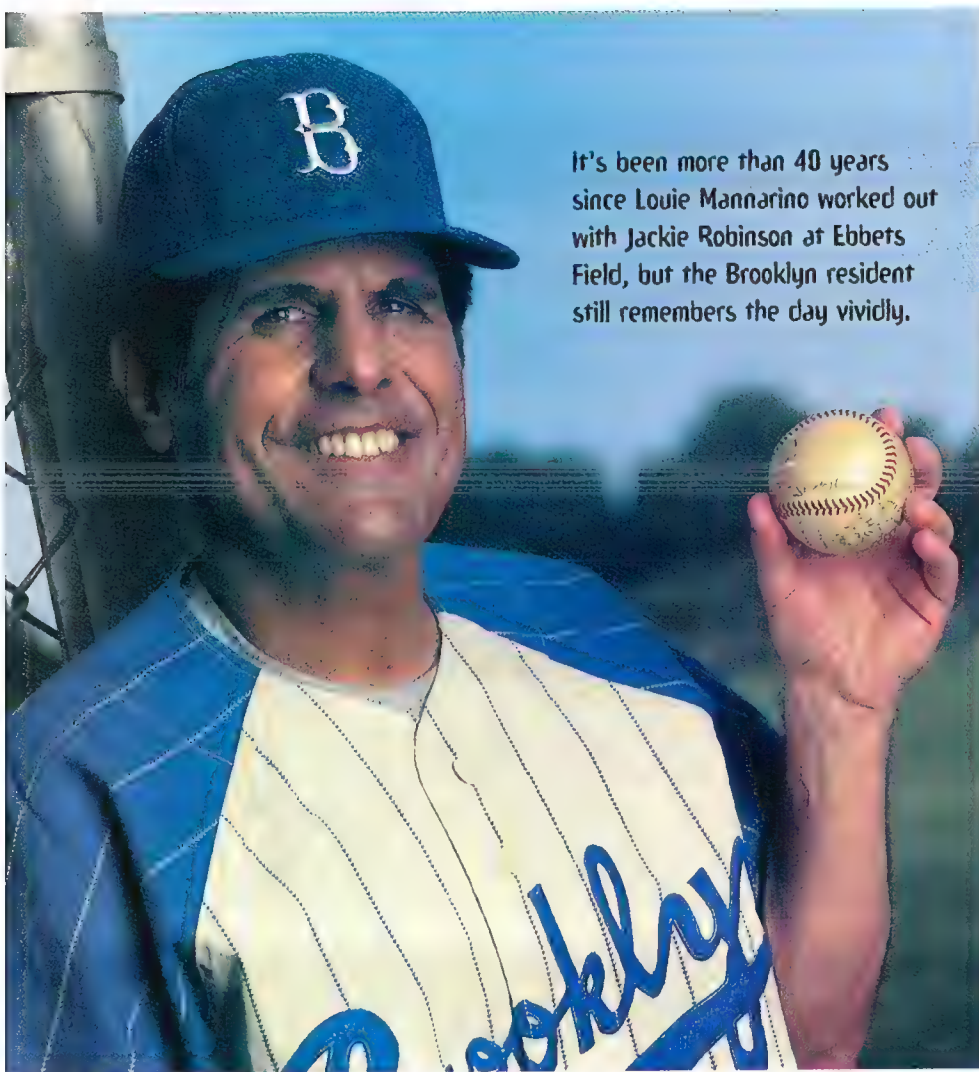


Louie Mannarino (second from left) pays close attention

to host Happy Felton as Jackie Robinson looks on.

It's been more than 40 years since Louie Mannarino was selected by Jackie Robinson as the best Little Leaguer on *Happy Felton's Knothole Gang* TV show, but Louie still remembers all the details of the magical evening of June 26, 1956, as if it were yesterday.





It's been more than 40 years since Louie Mannarino worked out with Jackie Robinson at Ebbets Field, but the Brooklyn resident still remembers the day vividly.

going to be judged today by one of the greatest baseball players I ever saw—Jackie Robinson! Is that all right?" The three Little Leaguers nodded nervously.

Louie was the first to play with Jackie, and he let the first grounder go through his legs; the other two contestants would do the same thing. But Louie hustled after the missed ball and fired it back to Robinson. Every other chance Louie gobbled up easily, prompting Robinson to compliment the little shortstop not once but twice to Felton. "He goes after the ball real nice, Hap," Robinson said, adding later, "He's got a good motion for a Little Leaguer." Louie thought to himself, "Here I am on a Major League field with Jackie Robinson, and he likes me. What a great guy!"

Almost every person who met Robinson has a story about his genuine interest in young people. William Pickens III, a longtime Brooklyn resident and now a prominent New York lawyer, remembers the thrill of discovering that Jackie and Rachel Robinson lived on his block during Robinson's rookie season of 1947. "We were just eager little kids, but Robinson played stickball with us in the streets, brought us candy, and left tickets for us at the ballpark," Pickens remem-

JEFF WEINER

"I couldn't eat for two days before the show," Mannarino says. "All I had was a little tea and some toast. My mother begged me to eat some more, but I was too excited about the chance to play on a Major League field."

Between 1950 and 1957, there were over 450 episodes of *Happy Felton's Knothole Gang* broadcast on New York television. The format of the pregame show was simple. Three youngsters, selected from the same Little League in a metropolitan New York neighborhood, engaged in a fielding competition in the right-field corner of the Dodgers' cozy Ebbets Field. They were judged by a Dodger player who tested them on ground balls and pop flies. The player who won the competition got to interview his favorite Dodger in the dugout before the next home game, a segment that was aired at the end of every episode of the show. All contestants, win or lose, received a Dodger cap, yearbooks, gloves, bats, and a savings-account book, courtesy of the bank that sponsored the show.

"I was a New York Giants fan," Louie recalls of those days when the Giants and Dodgers were bitter crosstown rivals. "When Happy Felton put that Dodger cap on me at the beginning of the show, I felt very funny," he says. "But when I looked around and saw that I was on a Major League field with real Major League grass and red clay dirt and beautiful white bases, I was thrilled." Louie's nerves disappeared after a few warmup tosses with Felton. "Don't throw it through the old man!" shouted the jolly, round, former actor after one of the peppy youngster's strong tosses. Felton then introduced his special guest. "You are

bers, the awe still evident in his voice.

Another wonderful example of Jackie Robinson's respectful and kind manner with kids was shown on the Knothole Gang show. Each Little Leaguer got a chance to ask a baseball question of the Major Leaguer before his workout began. Louie

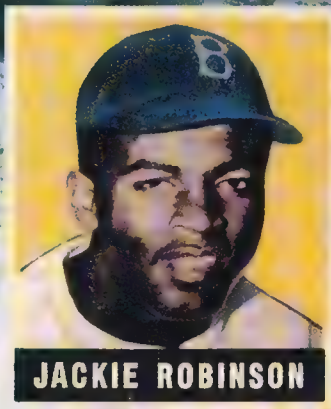
Two and a half year old Jackie Robinson, Jr. shows his famous daddy how it's done in July 1949.



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Whether it was on TV or not, Jackie always had time for kids. Main photo: As a member of the Dodgers' Montreal farm team in 1947, Jackie signs autographs for kids prior to a Dodgers/Montreal exhibition. Inset: Jackie and Roy Campanella speak to youngsters at the Harlem YMCA. Both were physical instructors there.

Mannarino asked a simple question: "Who gives the signal on a pitchout?" But the second contestant, Vinnie Esposito, asked a surprisingly complicated question that involved the infield fly rule. A stunned Happy Felton could only sputter, "Wow!" but Robinson took the query very seriously. "Vinnie, you've got a question here that we have to think about," he said. Robinson then patiently explained to the young man the nuances of the often-misunderstood rule.

The day after his triumph on the show, Louie Mannarino came back to Ebbets Field to interview fellow shortstop Pee Wee Reese. "In the morning, I went to my elementary school graduation dressed in my Little League uniform," he remembers. "The principal gave me permission so I could rush over afterwards to the ballpark." After his interview with Reese, the Dodger shortstop asked Robinson to sign Louie's Knothole Gang souvenir baseball. "I signed for

Louis yesterday, Pee Wee," Robinson said. An awed Louie thought, "He remembered my name!"

At the end of the 1956 season, Robinson was traded to the New York Giants, and Louie Mannarino was thrilled. "At last, he's on my side," thought the young Giants fan. But Robinson, who was nearing his 38th birthday, chose to retire rather than play for the Dodgers' hated crosstown rivals.

Early in 1972, Louie Mannarino had a final encounter with Jackie Robinson. Working as a steward for one of the airlines at New York's Kennedy Airport, Louie noticed a white-haired man walking by unsteadily. "That's Jackie Robinson!" he thought, and approached him. "You probably don't remember me,"

Louie began, but Robinson interrupted. "Remember you? I can't even see you," said Robinson, who was going blind from diabetes and who would die just a few months later, in October 1972.

Shortly after Robinson's death, Louie was walking down a New York street when he had another amazing experience. He noticed that a man had dropped his umbrella. As Louie bent down to pick it up, he was stunned to see that the umbrella belonged to none other than Pee Wee Reese! Reese had come to New York for Jackie Robinson's funeral. The two former shortstops, Little League Louie and big league Pee Wee, shared their sorrow at the passing of the heroic Robinson. Then Louie said to Reese, "Thank you for being so nice to me on the Knothole Gang show, Pee Wee." The former Dodger captain replied with a laugh, "I should thank you,

Louie. By asking to meet me, you got me a \$50 appearance fee, which was a lot of money in those days."

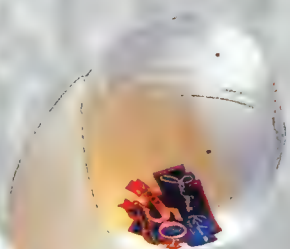
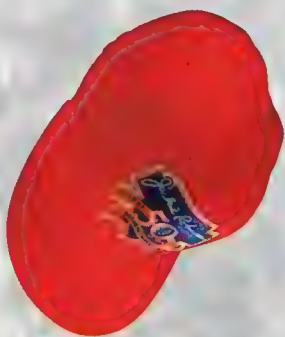
*Happy Felton's Knothole Gang* has long disappeared from America's TV screens, but a number of Major League teams are reviving the spirit of the show by inviting kids to run the bases after games and to join the players as they run out on the field before the first pitch. The bond created between a Major Leaguer and a Little Leaguer is a feeling that lasts forever. Louie Mannarino, who still lives in Brooklyn and works in special education at a local public school, still remembers the Knothole Gang motto: "Where the stars of tomorrow meet the stars of today." No star ever gave more of himself to Little Leaguers and kids everywhere than Hall of Fame player—and person—Jackie Robinson. ★

*Lee Lowenfish is a freelance writer based in New York City.*





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ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHAEL CRAMPTON

# Living Show



As Sundays go, this is a good one for the Anaheim Angels.

They have just rallied from a two-run deficit to beat Detroit, 6-5, on a two-out, RBI single by Jim Edmonds. The win moves them back to the .500 mark and within a game of second place in the American League West.

The Angels players shower and dress quickly, pausing briefly to pack their equipment bags and gather some bats for the challenge ahead.

In a few minutes, they begin the walk from the home dugout down the right-field line to an area behind the visiting bullpen where

BY TERRY JOHNSON





**LEAVING LA:** (Top left and right): Angels Trainer Rick Smith gets packing; batboys clean spikes. (Center left and right): The team boards a charter to Toronto; Chuck Finley brushes up on his emergency procedures. (Bottom left and right): Gary DiSarcina snoozes; saying goodbye.



two buses wait, engines running and drivers behind the wheel.

As they leave the clubhouse, some players stop at the family room just outside to say a quick good-bye to friends and family members who have come to Anaheim Stadium that day. Others stroll through the stands, accompanied by their wives and small children excited over the prospect of walking Daddy to the bus. Hugs and kisses all around, a little smile and it's time to go.

Soon, Terry Collins, looking dapper in a dark suit and conservative tie, slides into the seat normally reserved for Major League managers at the front of



the first bus. At his nod, the buses roll smoothly through a now-deserted parking lot to begin the short trip to John Wayne Airport and a night charter flight across the country.

Ahead waits the road. This time, it will be a 14-day, 12-game swing through Boston, Chicago, Baltimore and Milwaukee, a 6,700-mile late-April to early-May jaunt. And by the time the trip is over, the euphoria over a 4-2 homestand will have been long forgotten. The Angels will have won only three times in 11 games, gone through six time-zone changes, two rainouts and a hastily scheduled doubleheader, frigid weather, lost another starting pitcher with an elbow injury and their first baseman with a hamstring injury.

Former Detroit Tigers star Kirk Gibson used to refer to the road as "The Beast": A wild thing with a life of its own; something to be conquered before it conquers you.

"The road can be a team's best friend or its worst enemy," says former Angels reliever Lee Smith, one of the game's most experienced road

warriors with 17-plus seasons in the Major Leagues behind him. "When you're losing, going on the road can be the best thing in the world for you, or the worst thing if you're winning. It's just a part of baseball that we all deal with.

"The advantages are great. You're well taken care of. You stay at nice hotels. You get to see and do a lot of things that you normally wouldn't have the chance to see and do. You meet a lot of nice people that you wouldn't have the chance to meet otherwise. But there are disadvantages. Traveling takes a big toll on your body. Plus, you're not at home to watch your chil-





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land A's aren't far behind at more than 43,200 miles each. The Chicago White Sox, meanwhile, travel the least of any team—just over 27,000 miles.

Nevertheless, those long trips from the East through Anaheim, Oakland and Seattle can be just as intimidating as those eastern swings through New York, Montreal and Philadelphia are for the Los Angeles Dodgers, whose 45,000 annual air miles tops the National League.

At the same time, the "perils" of the road are minimized by the professional, efficient manner in which Major League Baseball approaches team travel. Players have it down to a science, from where to grab a quick bite before a night game in St. Louis to the best seat on the plane in which to grab a quick nap on a flight from Pittsburgh to Houston.

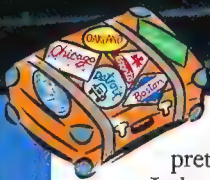
Every club employs highly skilled professionals trained to move upward of 60 people and more than three tons of equipment and luggage from city to city quickly and efficiently. And the people they work with at the airlines, bus companies,

medical centers, sporting goods companies and hotels have all been trained to see to the clubs' needs and help smooth out bumps in the road. "If you know what you're doing and work with good people," says Orioles outfielder Eric Davis, "going on the road becomes a lot easier."

At the core of any club's operations on the road is the traveling secretary. It's his responsibility to make all of the

travel arrangements for the team, from booking flights to having the bus ready when the plane lands. The traveling secretary makes the deals with the airlines and selects the hotels that the club stays in. If anything goes wrong or if something unexpected arises, he's the troubleshooter.

He's also the unofficial



dren grow up. The price can be pretty high."

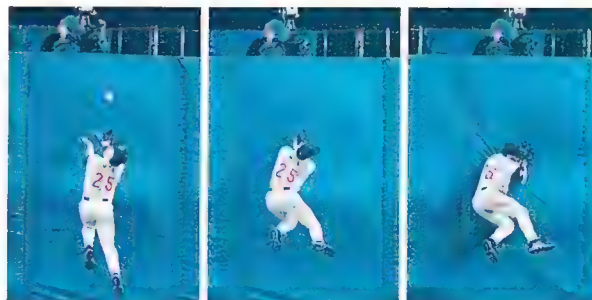
Indeed, traveling contains some of the best and worst that baseball has to offer. The glamour of playing a big series to a packed house at Yankee Stadium is counterbalanced by all-night flights after night games and long afternoons sitting in the visiting bullpen freezing while the wind whistles in off Lake Michigan.

But travel is as integral a part of baseball as the bat and the glove. Each team plays half of its 162 games away from home, and with the advent of Interleague Play and the addition of the Arizona Diamondbacks and Tampa Bay Devil Rays next year, baseball travel has become more complex than ever.

Clubs in the East and Midwest, where most of the teams are concentrated, naturally have the advantage because they travel the fewest miles and have fewer late-night flights. The Seattle Mariners, on the other hand, have the toughest road to travel, literally and figuratively, simply because they have to go farther. The Mariners logged more than 50,000 air miles in 1996, the most in baseball. This year, Seattle will travel more than 53,000 miles. The Angels and Oak-



**IN TORONTO:** (Top left and right) Shigetoshi Hasegawa marvels at Skydome's roof; Jason Dickson gets cooking; (Center top and bottom): Mike James with his dad; Troy Percival pulls up a trunk and eats; 5. Jim Edmonds defies gravity to make a spectacular catch at the wall.





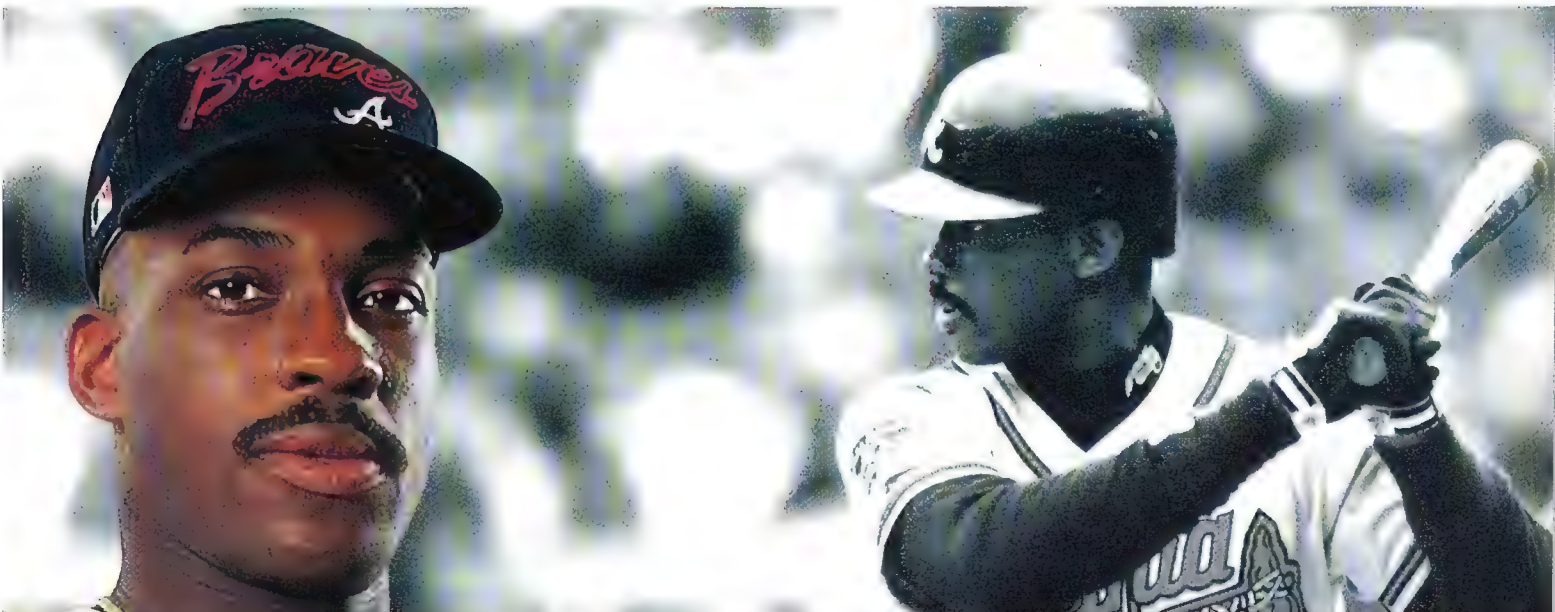


Rodriguez/The Grid cap

“Hit the ball over the fence  
**and you can  
 take your time**  
 going around the bases.”



McGriff/Back In Black cap







mother hen to five dozen people or more. The Angels' traveling party, for example, is on the low end of the Major League spectrum, but they still travel with a minimum group of 45 people, which includes the players, the manager and coaching staff, the medical staff, a video specialist and a broadcasting crew. The Dodgers are on the high end, often traveling with more than 60 people.

The job of moving that many people around North America usually begins shortly after the previous season ends. If the team is involved in Post Season play, however, making travel plans for the following year's Spring Training and regular season becomes a relatively rushed job that begins in mid to late November.

"You have to start early," says Bill DeLury, the Dodgers' longtime traveling secretary, who's acknowledged as one of the finest in his trade in professional sports. "You usually start in October, but we didn't start until November last year because we didn't know which schedule we were going to use. We had to wait until we knew for sure that there was going to be Interleague Play.

"You do everything—hotels, airlines, Spring Training accommodations. For hotels, you have to do it early because of conventions. In some cities, they're booked five years in advance. For the spring, I dust off the files around December and send out the instructions.

"The job looks tougher than it really is," he adds. "If everything goes according to plan, you usually don't have anything to worry about. But you have to pay attention to details. If a

bus isn't there at 3 o'clock in the morning, it's your fault. You never assume anything or leave anything to chance. You always check. Then you check again."

Organization is also the key for each club's equipment manager, whose job is the most physically demanding. It's his responsibility to pack

and move as much as 5,000 pounds of baseball gear and another 3,000 pounds of luggage when the club leaves home.

The equipment manager must get the equipment to the airport and on the plane, then off the plane and to the ballpark. Then he has to unpack it—but only after he makes sure that all of the suitcases have gotten to the team hotel.

Angels equipment manager Ken Higdon routinely moves 155 pieces of gear weighing 4,700 pounds and 120 suitcases weighing approximately 3,200 pounds. Organization and familiarity are the keys to Higdon's job. Over the years, he's learned to get to know the people he's dealing with and the equipment they use intimately. He's developed the finely honed sixth sense of a baseball equipment manager that flashes a warning signal when something's out of place.

## Island Hopping

They aren't quite ready to change their nickname to the "Globetrotters," but the San Diego Padres have become baseball's most adventurous team. The Padres and St. Louis Cardinals made baseball history in April when they played a three-game regular-season series in Hawaii. The series, played April 18-20 at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu, marked the first time that Major League Baseball games had been played in the islands and the first time that regular-season games had been played outside the North American continent.

Travel for both teams was difficult, but the series was generally considered a success by the fans in Hawaii, the clubs involved and Major League Baseball executives. In addition, the series further opened the possibilities for Major League games to be played in Asia, the Caribbean and perhaps even Europe.

Last season, San Diego took the sport into Mexico for the first time in baseball's 121-year history, playing a three-game series against the New York Mets in Monterrey, and they'll play an exhibition game against the







**ON TO MOTOWN:** (Far left): Waiting to pass through customs in Toronto; (Left): Passing the time on the bus to Tiger Stadium; (Below): Descending into a crowd of autograph seekers; (Far lower left): Equipment manager Ken Higdon gets to work in the Detroit clubhouse.



"It's like any job. If you're organized, it's easier," Higdon says. "You get to know what the players like to take with them. If you have a new player, his bag sticks out like a sore thumb when it's sitting on the tarmac."

As with the traveling secretary, starting early is a requisite. For an 11 a.m. flight on a day off, Dodgers veteran equipment manager Dave Wright is riding in the equipment truck by 7:30. By 9:30, he's on the tarmac underneath the plane making sure that all of the equipment is being loaded into the cargo hold. "You just have to know what to bring, like the parkas and cold-weather gear when you go east in April, and you stay with it," Wright says. "If somebody forgets something, we have one or two guys who are in the club-

house back home who can express-mail things to us."

For the equipment manager, job satisfaction means everything's in the right place at the right time. "For me, the best thing is when I go up to my hotel room and the message light's not on," Wright says. "That means that everything got to where it was supposed to go."

For a club's traveling medical staff, providing high-quality medical care and conditioning programs on the road is a challenge. The task is easier in some cities than in others, but it's handled by thinking ahead and being prepared.

As with many clubs, the Angels travel with two athletic trainers, a physical therapist and a strength coach. Home clubs provide certain facilities like training tables and whirlpools, and they allow visiting players to use their exercise equipment. The trainers also have a network of hospitals, physicians and health-care personnel in each city, which makes dealing with injuries and emergencies easier.

Still, the Angels' medical and conditioning staff travels with 14 trunks of gear, carrying everything from weights and an ultrasound machine to a fold-up training table and a portable office for head athletic trainer Ned Bergert.

In a brand-new ballpark, the visiting training room is spacious and well-appointed. In an older park with a tiny visiting clubhouse, the training room may be no more than a table in the middle of everything. The same job still gets done. "We re-

Colorado Rockies in Culiacan, Mexico, next March. "We are a team with a foreign policy," says club president Larry Lucchino. "Make no mistake about it."

The purpose of the Hawaii trip, as with the 1996 journey to Mexico, was to expand the Padres' fan base and help baseball expand its horizons. "We want the people of Hawaii to be Padre fans," says Lucchino. "This is part of our radio and TV territory. We want this to be the first step in a long relationship."

Of course, the Cardinals did more than just go along for the ride. St. Louis won the first two games of the series and made its own statement for building worldwide interest in the game.

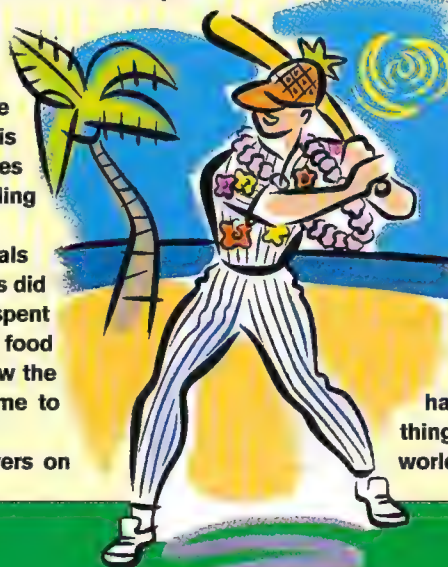
Cardinals players visited hospitals and military bases during their visit, as did Padres players. The Cardinals also spent time fishing, participating in a canned food drive, playing golf and getting to know the people. Naturally, there was even time to sample a Hawaiian staple, the luau.

The series drew 77,432 fans. Players on

both clubs became fan favorites, and the groundwork was laid for a return to the Islands someday. Getting to Hawaii, though, was definitely not half the fun. The Padres flew 11 hours from Pittsburgh after a night game the Wednesday before the series, while the Cardinals flew 11 hours from Miami a night later following a game against the Marlins.

"It's a nice trip, but we're the ones who have to play," says Padres outfielder Greg Vaughn. "The flight is tough. It's a good team vacation, but you still have a job to do. I wouldn't mind doing it during Spring Training."

Still, the Padres had better get used to seeing the world if they're going to play for Lucchino and Padres owner John Moores. "Larry wants to play other places, which is fine," says San Diego right-hander Andy Ashby. "It was exciting to play in another place where Major League Baseball hadn't been played. They're doing everything they can to spread baseball around the world. I think it's awesome."







#### IT'S SHOWTIME: (Top):

Outfielder Garret Anderson gets on top of one in Detroit. (Above): Teamwork pays off in baseball and in crossword puzzles. (Center): Rookie Matt Perisho psyches himself up in the Detroit clubhouse for his first Major League start.

ally don't change what we do," Bergert says. "We still provide care at the same level that we do at home. We may have to adapt what we do because of different equipment that's available, but you just have to use your imagination a little bit."

Because of their unusual travel needs and the need to get from one city to another at odd hours, most clubs fly on chartered planes. They're more expensive, but they're ready to fly when the club is. The airlines are also generally willing to do whatever it takes to make a ballclub happy.

"The club is basically buying the airplane for that day," says Julie

Weick, a Los Angeles-based sales manager for Delta Airlines, one of the largest carriers of baseball clubs. "They tell us what they want to have as service. We know flying a charter is more relaxing. We usually provide the same service all the time, and everyone gets the same service. The club knows the personnel and the personnel gets to know the club."

"Basically, we try to build a relationship with a group that flies our charters. Whatever they want, we do. We make it easy for them."

Hotels do the same. Because comfort, privacy and security are high priorities for clubs on the road, hotels that house ballplayers are well-prepared to do the little things that are important to ballplayers, like scheduling housekeeping service for the late afternoon after a club has been up half the night flying.

The Westin in Chicago and the Grand Hyatt in New York are regarded as two of the best hotels at accommodating ballclubs. The reason is the amount of effort they put into their service and their attention to detail.

Lisa Krusinski, a sales manager at the Westin, gets up at 4:30 a.m. on the day a ballclub is to arrive to make sure everything is just right. "I send out a questionnaire before the season to see what amenities each team likes," Krusinski said. "We ensure privacy and security. That's why teams like us."

Most clubs adhere to certain rules of the road, although most of them are informal and devised by the players themselves. Naturally, clubs insist on proper behavior from their



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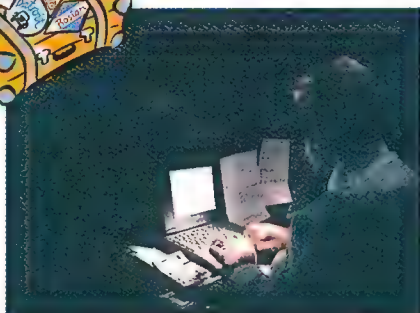
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**ON THE ROAD AGAIN:** (Upper left): Media services manager Larry Babcock works on the flight to Oakland; (Above): Traveling secretary Tom Taylor and trainer Rick Smith raid the galley; (Above right): Rod Carew confers with Tony Phillips.

players, and most teams also have a dress code, which normally says that players and anyone traveling with the team must wear a coat and tie.

On the plane and the bus, the players have their own customs. On getaway days, the first bus is generally reserved for management and staff, while the second is the exclusive domain of the players. Seating on the airplane is often based on experience and status. The rear of the plane is often reserved for the top players—it's

a noise-restricted area where they can sleep during a flight. Some clubs poll their players to determine seating preferences, and seating often remains the same throughout the year.

Once they've arrived in a new city, players' interests are as varied as any traveling groups' would be. Movies are big. So are concerts. Shopping is a favorite activity as well, particularly for players with little ones at home waiting for a souvenir.

Cleveland pitcher Orel Hershiser likes to tour the cities he visits. "I like to get to know the area and the people," he says. Some players go a step further—when catcher Andy Allanson played for the Angels in 1995, he used his time on the road to gather information for a tour book that was published last year.

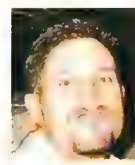
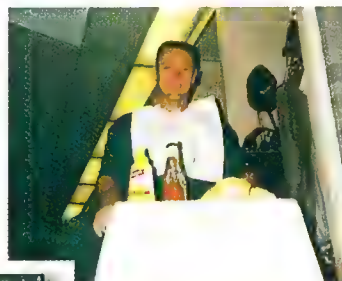
Many players, such as the Dodgers' Mike Piazza,

## Candid Camera

Just for fun, we decided to give disposable cameras to some of the Angels for their road trip. Here's a small sample of what they came up with....



(ABOVE): ROD CAREW, AN ACCOMPLISHED AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER, GETS HORIZONTAL TO SHOOT OUTFIELDER JIM EDMONDS.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: JACK HOWELL DRESSES FOR LOBSTER, GETS MCDONALDS; GARY DISARCINA MUGS FOR THE CAMERA; JIM EDMONDS IS ONE HAPPY ANGEL; FANS ENJOY THE CALIFORNIA SUN; WAITING FOR A GLIMPSE OF THE TEAM; MATT PERISHO PREPARES TO DO A LITTLE WELDING ON THE TEAM BUS. (CENTER): CROSSING AMERICA—ONCE AGAIN.



travel with small sound systems and spend hours listening to their favorite music. Others, like Texas closer John Wetteland and Cubs third baseman Dave Hansen, take their guitars on the road. Cards, fishing and golf have also always been popular with pro athletes. "A lot of guys like to play golf," says Dodgers right-hander Tom Candiotti. "I like it because it helps loosen you up. If you're sitting in a hotel room all day, you get tight. I'd rather get up and move around."

Of course, ballplayers aren't on vacation. They have demanding physical jobs to do, so off-duty time is spent wisely. For many players, the time away from home is a perfect opportunity to get some rest. "I pretty much like to sleep," says Dodgers first baseman Eric Karros. "When you're home, you're usually pretty busy, so you rest when you get the chance. I think a lot of ballplayers with families do that."

Even when all of the details have been handled correctly, however, and all of the players' needs have been provided for, one factor can throw a large wrench into an otherwise perfectly executed trip: losing.

For the Anaheim (then Cali-

fornia) Angels, that wrench came at the end of the 1995 season, after the team had blown an 11-game lead in the American League West race and fallen three games behind Seattle in the last week of the regular season. The Angels then won their last five games to force a one-game playoff for the division title in Seattle.

The Mariners won the game, 9-1, and flew to New York to meet the Yankees in the first round of the playoffs. For the Angels, the flight back to Anaheim that night seemed as long as a trip around the world, maybe longer.

"That seemed like the longest flight I'd ever been on," says Chuck Finley. "That was a tough ride home. I was 22 years old when we lost to Boston in the League Championship Series (in 1986)—we were one pitch away from going to the World Series. But I was just along for the ride that time. I didn't know any better—I thought that happened every year. Once you understand what it takes to get there, it's a lot tougher to come so close and not make it."

"I don't think anybody said a word from the time we left the clubhouse until we were about halfway home. The night before, we got on a plane to Seattle and I don't think we needed any engines to take off. We could have sat on the runway for 10 hours and it wouldn't have mattered to us because we had won five straight to force the playoff. The flight home was a different story. Whether you win or lose has a lot to do with how long or short a road trip is." ★

*Terry Johnson is a freelance baseball writer based in Stevenson Ranch, California.*

**HONEY, WE'RE HOME:** (Top): Loading the equipment onto the charter; (Left): Pitcher Dennis Springer calls home at trip's end; (Below): Tony Phillips with Garret Anderson and his family upon their return to Anaheim.







Atlanta's veteran setup man Mike Bielecki was untouchable in the '96 Post Season, giving up no runs, no hits and striking out 12 in six appearances.



They used to be known as mop-up men. Not quite good enough to start. Not quite good enough to close out a victory. They were essentially forgotten men, the nobodies on a Major League team. The guys who simply

# THE MIDDLE MAN

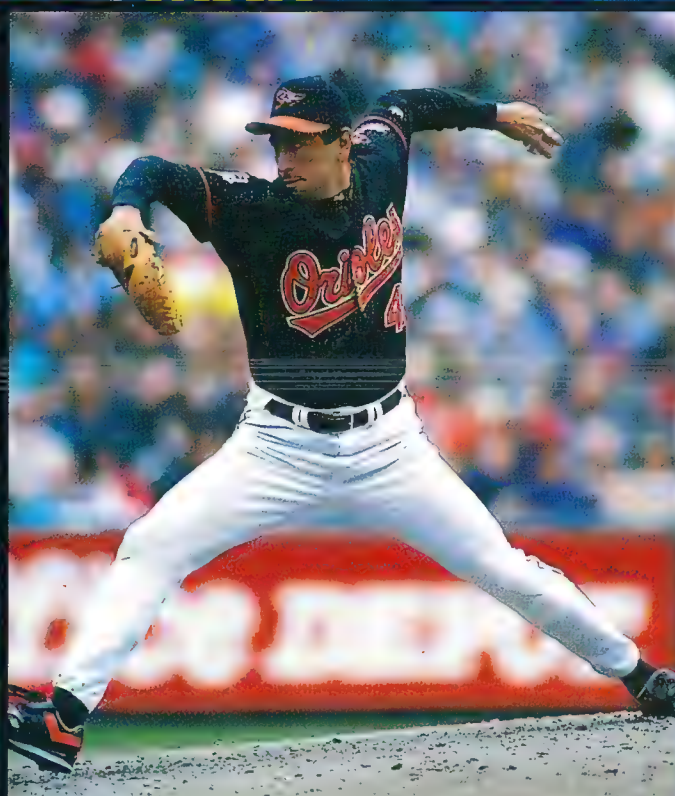
Meet baseball's newest specialist.

By Rick Weinberg

filled out the roster. They were only around in case the starting pitcher got blown out of a game early. Nothing more than an afterthought, they were, as anonymous as the third backup catcher or fifth outfielder.



# THE MIDDLE MAN



**Armando Benitez (top left), Jesse Orosco (top right) and Arthur Rhodes help anchor a solid Orioles bullpen.**

Not anymore.

Today they're referred to as "setup" or "middle" men, and they're as essential to the success of a Major League Baseball team as any other player on the roster.

Perhaps more essential, in fact, because complete games are virtually as common as the 50-cent hot dog these days.

Just like closers, setup men have become specialists in this Age of Specialization, pitchers who are saved for specific individ-

ual matchups in the middle innings of a game. "How important are the setup men?" asks New York Yankees starting pitcher David Cone. "Without them, we don't win the World Series last year. Period. Their importance cannot be underestimated anymore. We had a lot of people who had great years [last season], but if you had to pick the number one reason we're World Champions, it's probably our bullpen, our setup guy."

Specifically, that is, Mariano Rivera. Rivera was so brilliant in 1996 that at one point he was the favorite to win the Cy Young Award. Forget that he didn't. He won a bigger prize: the World Series, the notoriety and, eventually, the Yankees' closer job, when John Wetteland signed as a free agent with the Texas Rangers.

In this wild and computerized age of specialization, when starters aren't strong enough—or effective

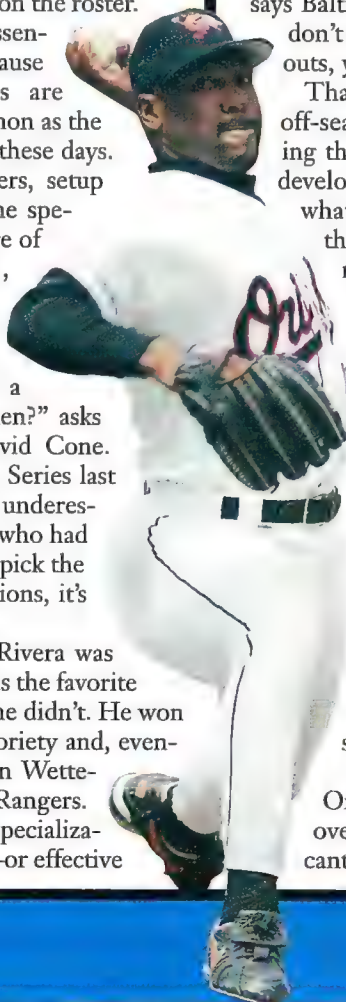
enough—to go more than six innings, and when hard-throwing closers routinely sew up the final three outs, the six outs in between have become perhaps the most significant of the 27 outs in a game. "Setup men have become, in essence, the bridge from the starting pitcher to the closer," says Baltimore Orioles manager Davey Johnson. "If you don't have those key guys in the middle to get those outs, you're done. You just won't win."

That's why the Orioles solidified their bullpen in the off-season by solidifying their starting rotation, allowing the key relievers to stay right where they are and develop their dominance. Orioles management saw what the Yankees did last season, saw how brilliant their relievers were, and decided that they had to make sure their bullpen was one of the best—if not the best—in the American League if they were to win the pennant this year.

"When we got into our off-season meetings, we looked at the difference between us and the Yankees, and one of the major differences was that they had the better bullpen," Johnson says. "We believe that was the difference between us and them. The slightest difference. They wound up winning the World Series, and we wound up sitting home watching it."

So by re-signing lefthander Jesse Orosco and keeping Alan Mills, Arthur Rhodes, Terry Mathews and Armando Benitez right where they are in front of closer Randy Myers, the Orioles have what many baseball executives and scouts consider the best bullpen in the league.

The Cleveland Indians aren't far behind the Orioles in the strength of their setup men and overall bullpen. One of the Indians' most significant off-season moves was not only trading for third



MLB PHOTOS: KEE (BENITEZ), PILLING (OROSCO), DRAPKIN (RHODES)





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# THE MIDDLE MAN

**Despite a slow start, the Indians' pen should come around with the help of new arrival Mike Jackson (left) and veteran setup man Eric Plunk (bottom).**

baseman Matt Williams and outfielders David Justice and Marquis Grissom, but also signing free-agent setup man Mike Jackson from the Mariners, considered one of the hardest throwing relievers in baseball. "When the Indians contacted me and we began negotiating, they told me they wanted to build the best bullpen in the division and had every intention of matching the Yankees' and Orioles' strength [in the bullpen]," Jackson says. "That's why they came after me so hard, harder than any team, and made me a priority. They realize the importance of the setup man. They know that if you don't have those guys in the middle, you're just not going to have a chance."

The game has changed that much—and those changes initially began in the 1970s with the advent of the designated hitter. Combine that with the inability of starting pitchers to complete games and the incredible dominance of hard-throwing closers and—voilà!—you have the rise of the

middle man and an emphasis on individual matchups against the 3-4-5 hitters in the lineup.

"In the old days, starting pitchers finished the games they started, and that was that," says former Major League pitcher Joe Nuxall, now an announcer for the Cincinnati Reds. "The percentage of complete games has dropped dramatically over the years—to virtually only one or two percent today—which has increased the involvement of relievers. That in turn has forced more pitchers to get involved, and with the hitters so powerful now, the strike zone so small—about the size of a matchbook, for goodness sakes—and ballparks getting smaller, managers had to go to this type of system. They really had no choice."

In 1952, there were 949 complete games in the Majors. Forty years later, in 1992, there were 419. And the numbers keep dropping. In 1976, the San Diego Padres' Randy Jones led the Majors with 25 complete games.

Twenty years later, Pat Hentgen of the Toronto Blue Jays led the Majors in complete games with 10. Thus, the use of relievers simply continues to skyrocket, their importance growing





# MOM THREW YOUR CARDS OUT?



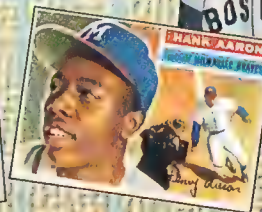
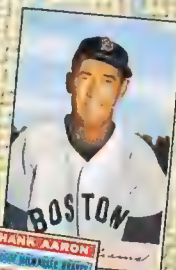
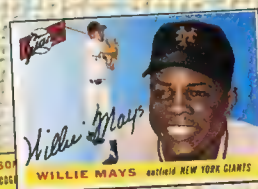
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# THE MIDDLE MAN

pitch by pitch, inning by inning, game by game.

"Baseball has become a chess game of matchups—left-hander vs. lefthander, righty vs. righty," says St. Louis Cardinals veteran middle man Rick Honeycutt, a lefthander who is often called on in the sixth, seventh or eighth innings to face tough National League lefthanded hitters such as the Giants' Barry Bonds, the Braves' Fred McGriff and the Padres' Tony Gwynn. "Tough job," Honeycutt sighs with a sheepish grin. "But as they say, somebody's got to do it."

Today's top setup men include the Yankees' Jeff Nelson and Graeme Lloyd; the Indians' Jackson, Eric Plunk and Paul Assenmacher; the Braves' Mike Bielecki, Brad Clontz and Alan Embree; the Angels' Mike James, Rick DeLucia and

Eck for the ninth inning exclusively, and using one or two other relievers to set *him* up. That began the gradual shift to today's strategy. Managers soon found that their closers were most effective when they pitched just one inning, the ninth. By restricting closers to the last inning exclusively, managers were then able to use them in the following game, or two, or three. Meanwhile, the importance of those three middle innings—the sixth, seventh and eighth—became magnified. Hence, the rise of the setup man.

"Those middle innings may be even harder to pitch than the early or late innings because you never know when you're going to get into the game," says the Yankees' Nelson, now Rivera's primary setup man. "When the bullpen phone rings, you gotta warm up fast, and you don't even know who you're facing, how hot or cold they are, things like that."

Starting pitchers, on the other hand, have four days to prepare for the opponent. They can go over scouting reports until they've memorized every statistic known to mankind. They can talk to their manager or pitching coach about how to approach certain hitters. They can review tapes of the hitters or the last time the pitcher faced the upcoming opponent. The closer knows he's going to be warming up in the eighth inning, if the game is close, and he knows who the scheduled hitters are in the ninth. He can quickly go over the scouting report in his mind. He can converse with the pitching coach. He's mentally and physically prepared.

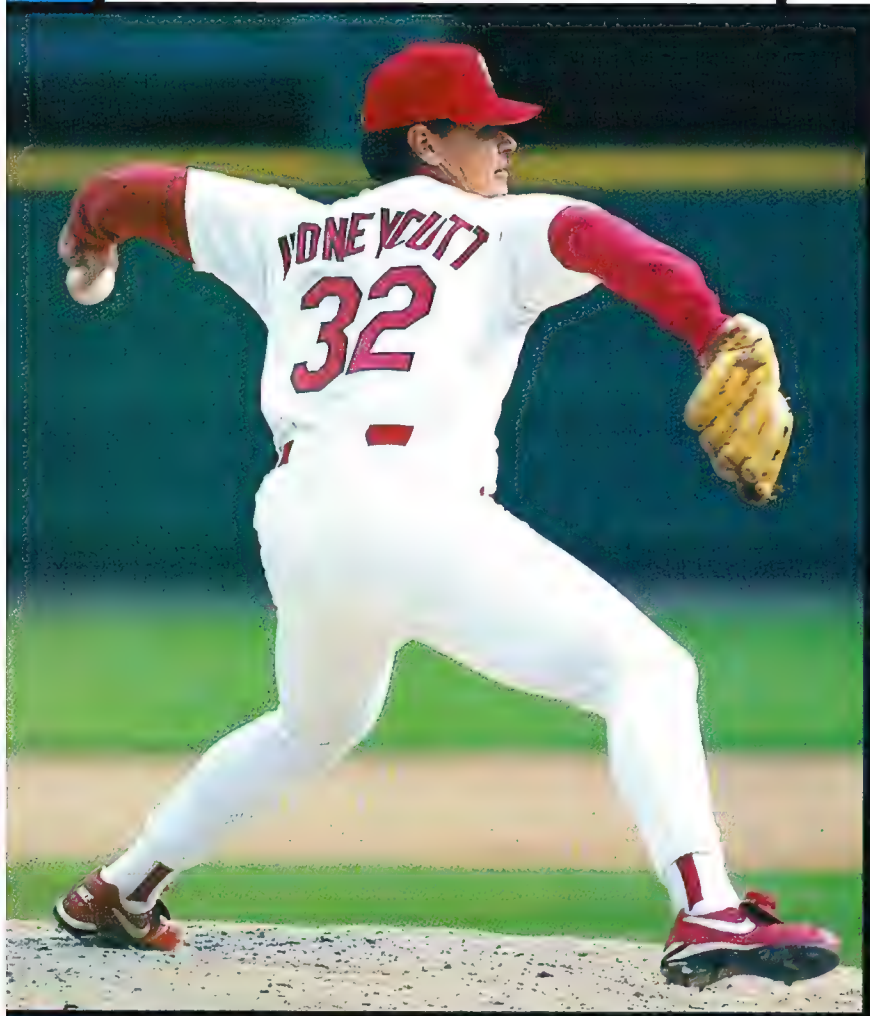
Not so with the setup man or middle man. "That's what makes it so tough," says Clontz of the Braves. "It's always the unknown that's the most dangerous." In a recent game between the Angels and Orioles in Anaheim, Angels manager Terry Collins used his bullpen in a way that epitomizes this new age of specialization. Four relievers—Chuck McElroy, DeLucia, Holtz and James—all marched to the mound in the eighth and ninth innings, one after another, with two of them facing two batters and the other two facing one batter. None of them threw more than eight pitches.

"That was the ultimate chess match, the ultimate in individual matchups," says Orioles first baseman Rafael Palmeiro. "It was fun to see the managers match wits like that. It was the ultimate example of baseball being a game within a game."

Here's how the situation evolved. With Angels rookie right-hander Jason Dickson holding a 3-2 lead in the sixth inning over Orioles righthander Scott Kamieniecki, Collins gets his bullpen working. Dickson's pitch count was rising—as was his level of fatigue. He was also facing the bottom of the Orioles' order in the seventh.

"I had already determined that McElroy was coming into the game in the eighth [if Dickson retired the Orioles' number nine hitter, shortstop Mike Bordick, to end the sev-

**Cardinal  
reliever Rick  
Honeycutt  
(left) says  
baseball is  
now a  
game of  
matchups.**



Mike Holtz; the Orioles' Benitez, Mills, Rhodes, Orosco and Mathews; the Cardinals' Honeycutt, T.J. Mathews and Tony Fossas and the Dodgers' Scott Radinsky, Mark Guthrie, Darren Hall, Darren Dreifort and Antonio Osuna.

"The game has done a complete 180-degree turn from the time I broke in," says Cardinals relief ace Dennis Eckersley, who entered the Majors in 1975 as a starting pitcher with Cleveland, then became a closer 12 years later when he joined Tony LaRussa's Oakland A's. "When I first started closing games, it was essentially me, me and me. Sometimes I'd pitch the eighth and ninth, and that was it."

But then LaRussa, who is partially credited for the incredible rise in the number of relievers utilized, began saving The

MLB PHOTOS





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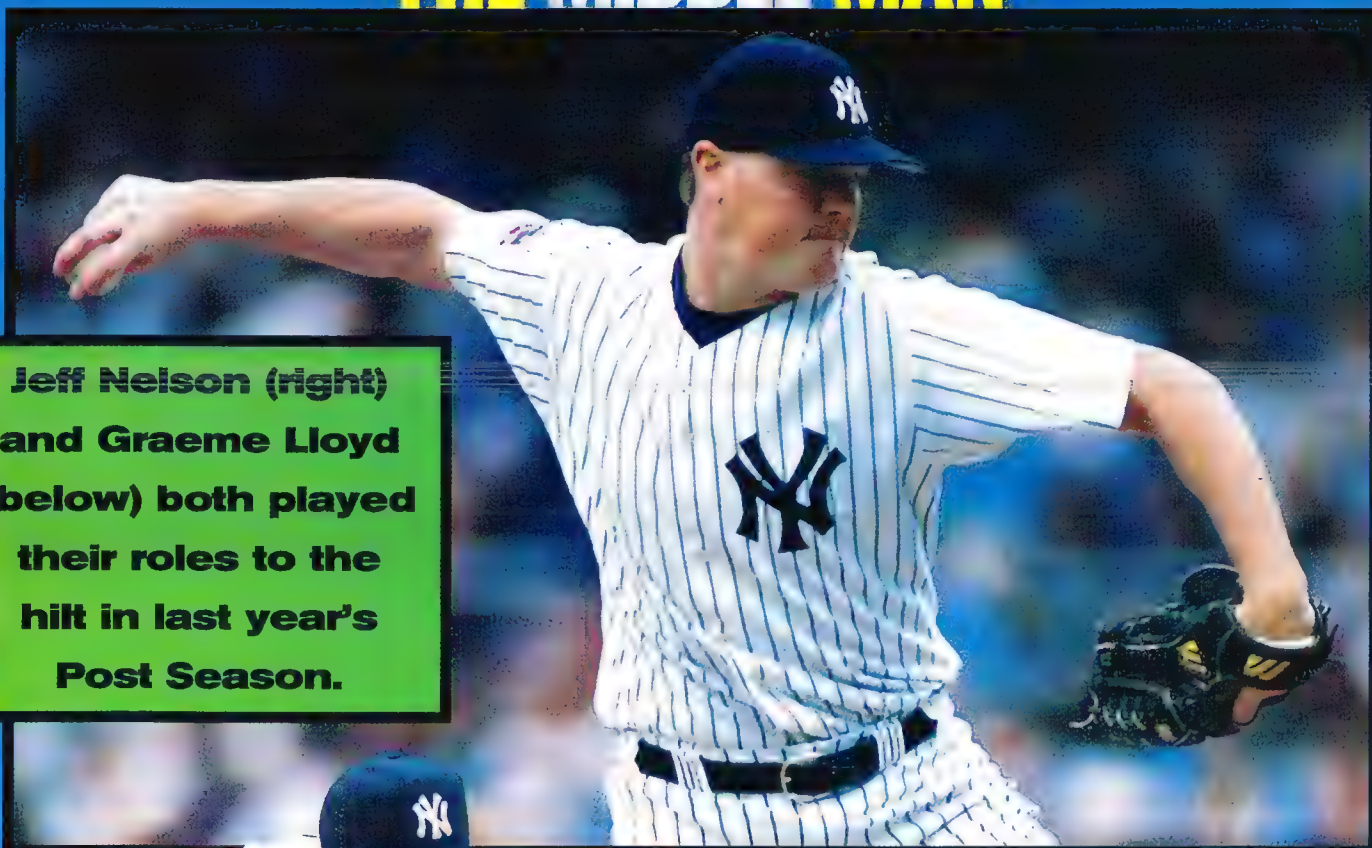


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# THE MIDDLE MAN

**Jeff Nelson (right) and Graeme Lloyd (below) both played their roles to the hilt in last year's Post Season.**



enth, which he did]," Collins says. "Brady Anderson was due to lead off the eighth, and I wanted Chuck in there facing him." Not only would the lefthanded McElroy be facing the lefthanded-hitting Anderson—one of baseball's toughest lefties—but what Collins didn't initially mention is that second baseman Roberto Alomar followed Anderson in the lineup. Alomar is a switchhitter who would be batting righthanded against McElroy. At the time, Alomar was hitting over .300 from the left side, under .125 from the right.

When that fact was mentioned to Collins, he just flashed a sly grin. His intention all along was to get Alomar to bat righthanded.

McElroy, whom the Angels traded shortly thereafter to the White Sox in a four-player trade that brought Tony Phillips to Anaheim, got Anderson on a lazy ball fly and Alomar on a ground ball. With righthanded hitting Eric Davis due up, Collins replaced McElroy with the righthanded DeLucia, who struck out Davis to end the eighth.

Palmeiro, the Orioles' cleanup hitter, was scheduled to lead off the ninth. "I knew I'd be facing him," says the lefthanded Holtz, who was already mentally prepared for the assignment as the Angels hit in the bottom of the eighth. "And with [Cal] Ripken following Palmeiro, I knew I'd only be facing one hitter," Holtz says. "I was zoned in to Palmeiro."

And just what was he thinking about Palmeiro? "Great hitter with a very quick bat," Holtz says. That quickness means that Palmeiro can wait a little bit longer on pitches than most players. "He's also got a great eye [for the strike zone], which means I had to come in there throwing strikes," Holtz says.

Holtz threw a fastball in on Palmeiro, right above the knees, and he grounded out to second base. And as Holtz had predicted, that was it for him. With the righthanded Ripken due up, followed by lefthanded B.J. Surhoff, righthander

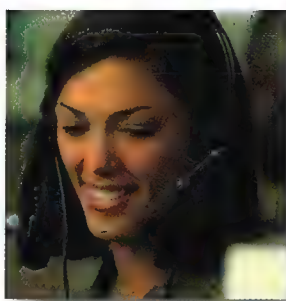




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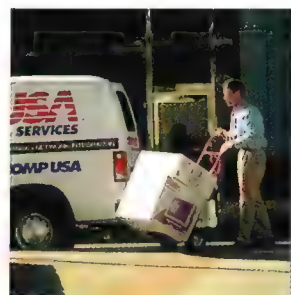
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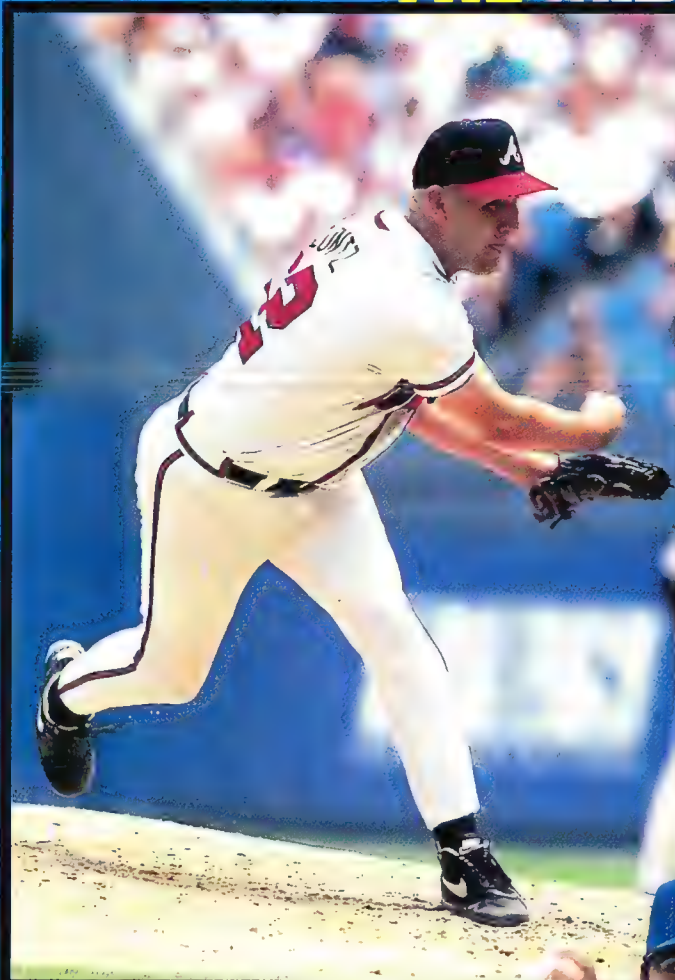
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# THE MIDDLE MAN



Collins says, "and even though they were beat up [from previous games], I knew they had one or two batters in them, and we needed those outs."

Montreal manager Felipe Alou says, "That's baseball today. Matchups. You hope your starter can go all the way, but you know who's capable of it and who isn't. You're at least hoping your starter will get you into the sixth, maybe the seventh, and by then you know who you'll be matching up."

The manager specifically pays close attention to the top and middle of the opponents' batting order, especially the lefthanded hitters. "Those are the guys you want to match up with, the Fred McGriffs and the Ryan Kleskos," says San Francisco Giants manager Dusty Baker. "You want your lefty—in our case, Jim Poole—matching up with them. You have to do that nowadays."

"Sometimes, those are the toughest outs of the entire game, even tougher than the last three outs," says the Reds' Jeff Brantley, who has been a setup man, closer and starter during his stellar career. Brantley points out that the middle man will often come into a game in the eighth in-

ning with a man or two on base and the 3-4-

5 batters scheduled to hit, while the closer will come in for the ninth and get the 6-7-8 hitters. "Who has it tougher?" Brantley asks. "Obviously, the setup man does. I know. I've been there before. It ain't easy."

Middle men were not only once anonymous, they were underpaid, too. Not anymore. They used to be fairly anonymous statistically, as well. But that's changed, too—there's now a statistical category called "holds." When a reliever enters a game with his team ahead and he holds the lead, he's credited with a "hold."

Cleveland's Mike Jackson perhaps put it best. "Our salaries have risen because of our importance and impact. It's the old supply versus demand. This is a wonderful time to be a reliever. There's always a spot for you."

Right in the middle of things, of course. ★

*Rick Weinberg is a freelance baseball writer based in Huntington Beach, California.*

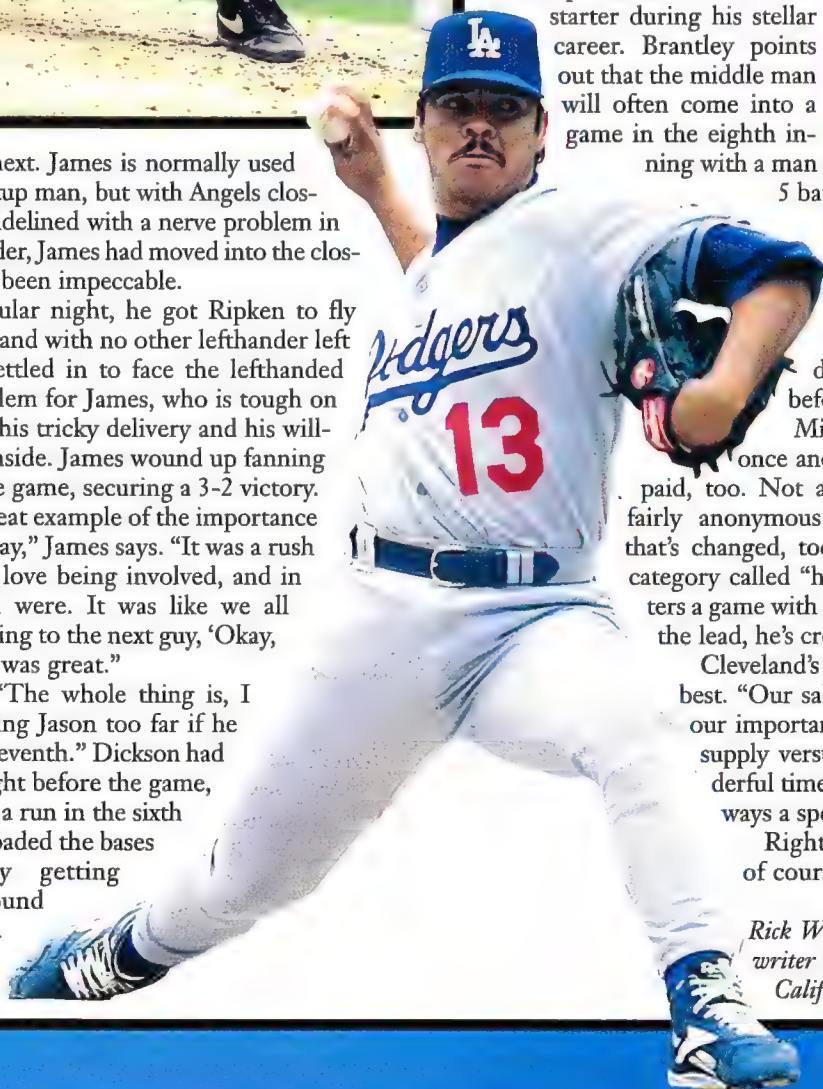
**Atlanta  
setup man  
Brad Clontz  
(left) may  
get to meet  
Dodgers  
reliever  
Antonio  
Osuna this  
October.**

Mike James was next. James is normally used exclusively as a setup man, but with Angels closer Troy Percival sidelined with a nerve problem in his pitching shoulder, James had moved into the closer's role, and he'd been impeccable.

On this particular night, he got Ripken to fly out to right field, and with no other lefthander left in the bullpen, settled in to face the lefthanded Surhoff. No problem for James, who is tough on lefties because of his tricky delivery and his willingness to pitch inside. James wound up fanning Surhoff to end the game, securing a 3-2 victory.

"That was a great example of the importance of the bullpen today," James says. "It was a rush for all of us. You love being involved, and in that game we all were. It was like we all rolled in there saying to the next guy, 'Okay, top this, dude.' It was great."

Says Collins: "The whole thing is, I knew I'd be pushing Jason too far if he went beyond the seventh." Dickson had run a fever the night before the game, and he'd given up a run in the sixth inning, when he loaded the bases but escaped by getting Surhoff to ground into a double play. "I had the guys in the pen,"





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The Players and  
Coaches Selected  
To Participate In The  
1997 All-Star Game

# 1997 ALL-STAR GAME ROSTERS

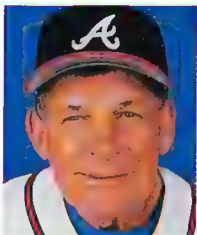


# National League



All statistics are through June 29, 1997.

## MANAGER



ATLANTA BRAVES/ALB PHOTOS

**BOBBY COX**  
MANAGER  
ATLANTA BRAVES

With Cox at the helm, the Atlanta Braves have won more games during the past six years (550) than any other team in the Major Leagues.

## COACHES



SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS/ALB PHOTOS

**DUSTY BAKER**  
MANAGER  
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

This former outfielder is in his fifth season at the helm and has had the Giants atop the NL West Division throughout the first half of the season.



SAN DIEGO PADRES/ALB PHOTOS

**BRUCE BOCHY**  
MANAGER  
SAN DIEGO PADRES

Bochy, who was named the 1996 National League Manager of the Year, is in his third season as the skipper of the San Diego Padres.

## MOISES ALOU

OUTFIELD  
FLORIDA MARLINS



ORLANDO PHOTOS

In his first season with Florida, Alou has been a huge run producer in the middle of the Marlins lineup. The 31-year-old outfielder was selected to play in his second All-Star Game.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
278	48	84	9	64	.302

## ROD BECK

PITCHER  
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS



SAN FRANCISCO PHOTOS

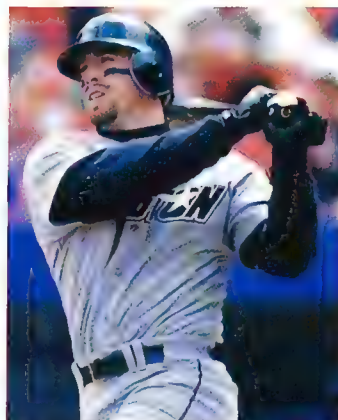
A first-time All-Star selection, Beck's performance as one of the National League's best closers in 1997 has been one of the reasons for San Francisco's fantastic start this year.

### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
38	33.1	3	2	2.43	26

## JEFF BAGWELL

FIRST BASE  
HOUSTON ASTROS



PULIN/ALB PHOTOS

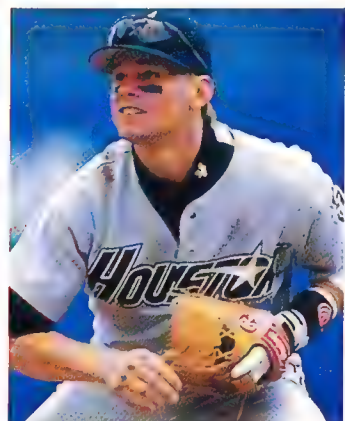
This Astros first baseman, a three-time participant in the All-Star Game, is perennially among the National League leaders in batting average, home runs and runs batted in.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
294	55	94	22	72	.320

## CRAIG BIGGIO

SECOND BASE  
HOUSTON ASTROS



PULIN/ALB PHOTOS

Showing an uncharacteristic display of power in 1997, Biggio has been one of the best second-sackers in the '90s. This is the 31-year-old's sixth appearance in the All-Star Game.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
323	69	101	13	43	.313



# National League



## HONORARY CAPTAIN



SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS/MLB PHOTOS

### FRANK ROBINSON

After 42 seasons of involvement with Major League Baseball, Robinson was recently named as a consultant to the Office of the Commissioner.

### JEFF BLAUSER

SHORTSTOP  
ATLANTA BRAVES



PALLINGA/MLB PHOTOS

This Braves shortstop earned his second trip to the All-Star Game by getting off to one of the hottest starts with the bat in the National League. His highest season batting average is .305.

#### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
255	53	89	11	40	.349

### BARRY BONDS

OUTFIELD  
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS



CARLICK/MLB PHOTOS

A three-time National League MVP, this switch-hitting slugger is on pace for his sixth consecutive season with more than 30 HR. This is his seventh appearance in the All-Star Game.

#### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
262	56	72	19	43	.275

### ANDRES GALARRAGA

FIRST BASE  
COLORADO ROCKIES



VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

Making his third appearance in the All-Star Game, this Rockies first baseman has put it all together at the plate this season and could make a serious run at a Triple Crown.

#### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
303	65	100	21	82	.330

### TOM GLAVINE

PITCHER  
ATLANTA BRAVES



GREENE/MLB PHOTOS

Glavine has been selected to pitch in five All-Star Games. The veteran left-hander, who finished last season with 15 wins and a 2.98 ERA, is on his way to topping those numbers in '97.

#### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	117	8	4	2.77	0





**KEVIN BROWN**PITCHER  
FLORIDA MARLINS

DIPACZAL &amp; PHOTOS

Brown, who threw a no-hitter in San Francisco on June 10, posted the lowest ERA in the Major Leagues last year. This is the right-hander's third trip to the Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	121.1	7	5	2.67	0

**KEN CAMINITI**THIRD BASE  
SAN DIEGO PADRES

BECKWILL &amp; PHOTOS

Last year's National League MVP, Caminiti has come on strong for the Padres after undergoing offseason surgery on his shoulder. This is his third trip to the Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
224	32	55	6	34	.246

**SHAWN ESTES**PITCHER  
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

CARLICK &amp; PHOTOS

Among the National League leaders in victories and earned run average this season, this youngster has made a splash and is on pace for 20 wins. This is his first Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	102.2	11	2	2.72	0

**MARK GRACE**FIRST BASE  
CHICAGO CUBS

VERBEY &amp; PHOTOS

This Cubs first baseman has batted over .300 in four of the past five years and has overcome an early-season injury to put up great numbers again. This is Grace's third All-Star Game.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
260	40	82	7	34	.315

**TONY GWYNN**OUTFIELD  
SAN DIEGO PADRES

PILINGWILL &amp; PHOTOS

Playing in the All-Star Game for the 13th time this year, Gwynn had his batting average near .400 through June and is pursuing his seventh National League batting crown.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
303	51	119	12	63	.393

**TODD HUNDLEY**CATCHER  
NEW YORK METS

PILINGWILL &amp; PHOTOS

A switch-hitting catcher with a bundle of power, his 41 HR last year set the Major League record for homers by a catcher. This is his second-straight trip to the All-Star Game.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
234	50	68	19	50	.291



# National League



## **BOBBY JONES**

PITCHER  
NEW YORK METS



PHILIPONIA PHOTOS

One of the biggest surprises of the 1997 season, Jones has spent most of the year leading the Major Leagues in victories to earn his first selection to the All-Star Game.

### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	114.2	12	4	2.67	0

## **CHIPPER JONES**

THIRD BASE  
ATLANTA BRAVES



REIDMAN PHOTOS

Now in just his third Major League season, this gamer has arrived as a full-fledged star and is already making his second appearance in the Midsummer Classic for the Braves.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
292	50	88	13	62	.301

## **DARRYL KILE**

PITCHER  
HOUSTON ASTROS



YESSERMAN PHOTOS

This right-hander makes his second trip to the Midsummer Classic after establishing himself as one of the Astros' most reliable starters through the first half of the 1997 season.

### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	126.1	9	3	2.14	0

## **KENNY LOFTON**

OUTFIELD  
ATLANTA BRAVES



GREENWALD PHOTOS

One of the game's speediest runners on the basepaths, Lofton is a four-time All-Star and is on pace to chase his career high for batting average in a season (.349), which he set in 1994.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
285	50	98	3	33	.344

## **JAVIER LOPEZ**

CATCHER  
ATLANTA BRAVES



GREENWALD PHOTOS

Lopez, last year's National League Championship Series MVP, gives the Braves superb defense behind the plate, and the first-time All-Star is showing that he also hits for power.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
218	32	66	13	38	.303

## **GREG MADDUX**

PITCHER  
ATLANTA BRAVES



PHILIPONIA PHOTOS

This is the sixth time that Maddux will be pitching in the All-Star Game. The Braves right-hander has won four NL Cy Young Awards and is among the league leaders in ERA this season.

### 1997 STATS

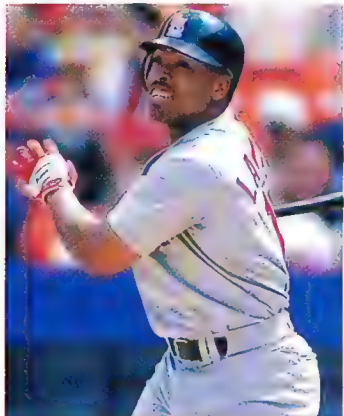
G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	116.2	10	3	2.55	0



All statistics are through June 29, 1997

## **RAY LANKFORD**

OUTFIELD  
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS



PILLINGBOM PHOTOS

Secretly one of the best all-around players in the Majors, Lankford's amazing defense and his huge numbers at the plate have helped him earn his first All-Star Game selection.

### **1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
216	45	72	16	53	.333

## **BARRY LARKIN**

SHORTSTOP  
CINCINNATI REDS



GREENGLASS PHOTOS

This one-time National League MVP has overcome injuries to lead the Reds with his bat and glove this year. Larkin has now been selected to play in the Midsummer Classic nine times.

### **1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
186	30	59	4	18	.317

## **UMPIRES**



PILLINGBOM PHOTOS

**GERRY DAVIS**  
FIRST BASE

Davis, who played semi-pro baseball in St. Louis, called his first game in 1982 and joined the NL staff in '85. This is his second All-Star Game.



REIDMAN PHOTOS

**JEFFREY KELLOGG**  
THIRD BASE

This fifth-year umpire, who resides in Ypsilanti Township, Michigan, during the offseason, is making his first appearance in a Midsummer Classic.

## **PEDRO MARTINEZ**

PITCHER  
MONTREAL EXPOS



PILLINGBOM PHOTOS

The anchor of the Expos' starting rotation has been among the NL leaders in wins, ERA and strikeouts this season. This is the right-hander's second All-Star Game appearance.

### **1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
14	108	9	3	1.58	0

## **DENNY NEAGLE**

PITCHER  
ATLANTA BRAVES



GREENGLASS PHOTOS

The fourth starter in the Braves deep pitching rotation, this left-hander has been nearly unbeatable this year and is on pace to reach 20 victories for the first time in his six-year career.

### **1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	115.2	11	1	3.27	0



PILLINGBOM PHOTOS

**WALLY BELL**  
RIGHT FIELD

Making his first appearance in an All-Star Game, this Boardman, Ohio, native became a regular member of the National League staff in 1993.



# National League



All statistics are through June 29, 1997

**MIKE PIAZZA**  
CATCHER  
LOS ANGELES DODGERS



WACHTEL/ALB PHOTOS

The National League's leading vote-getter for the second season in a row, Piazza is on pace for his highest batting average in a season yet. This is his fifth-straight All-Star Game.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
270	48	99	15	46	.367

**CURT SCHILLING**  
PITCHER  
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES



SANTANA/ALB PHOTOS

The ace of the Phillies pitching staff is making his first Midsummer Classic appearance. Despite not having much run support, Schilling is on pace to make a run at 20 wins this season.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
18	125	9	7	3.46	0

## TRAINER



MONTREAL EXPOS

**RON McCLAIN**  
MONTREAL EXPOS



LOS ANGELES DODGERS

**CHARLIE STRASSER**  
LOS ANGELES DODGERS

**LARRY WALKER**  
OUTFIELD  
COLORADO ROCKIES



PILLING/ALB PHOTOS

This switch-hitting Colorado slugger is having an MVP-type season and was one of the last hitters to keep his average above .400 in late June. This is Walker's second All-Star Game.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
288	77	118	24	67	.410

**TONY WOMACK**  
SECOND BASE  
PITTSBURGH PIRATES



PILLING/ALB PHOTOS

This Pirates second baseman earns a trip to the Midsummer Classic in his first full season. Womack has already stolen more than 30 bases, ranking him among the best in the league.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
313	41	83	3	24	.265







You see a pitch.

He sees a rookie pitcher,  
the flags in right pointing  
out of the stadium and a  
hanging curve headed for  
parking lot D.



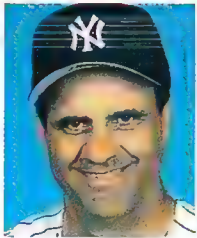
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# American League



## MANAGER



NEW YORK YANKEES/ALB PHOTOS

**JOE TORRE**

MANAGER  
NEW YORK YANKEES

In his 15th season as a big league manager, and first with the Yankees, Torre led New York to its first World Championship in 18 years in 1996.

## COACHES



CLEVELAND INDIANS/ALB PHOTOS

**MIKE HARGROVE**

MANAGER  
CLEVELAND INDIANS

Hargrove entered the 1997 season with a career managerial record of 449-378 and one AL title in his six seasons at the helm of the Indians.



TEXAS RANGERS/ALB PHOTOS

**JOHNNY OATES**

MANAGER  
TEXAS RANGERS

The Rangers won the American League West Division title and made the franchise's first-ever Post Season appearance under Oates in 1996.

## ROBERTO ALOMAR

SECOND BASE  
BALTIMORE ORIOLES



KEALAB PHOTOS

Alomar, who entered the season with a .302 career batting average, has been one of the best-fielding second basemen for nearly a decade. This is his eighth straight All-Star Game.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
245	37	75	7	30	.306

## SANDY ALOMAR, JR.

CATCHER  
CLEVELAND INDIANS



REDALE PHOTOS

This Cleveland catcher has gotten off to a torrid start at the plate by combining a high average with power. Alomar, Jr. is making his fifth All-Star Game appearance this year.

### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
223	38	83	11	41	.372

## ROGER CLEMENS

PITCHER  
TORONTO BLUE JAYS



MANNING/ALB PHOTOS

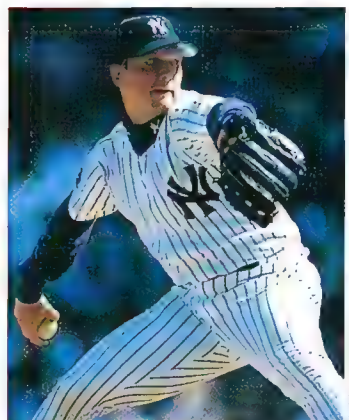
Pitching in his first season with the Blue Jays, Clemens has been one of the most dominating pitchers in the Major Leagues this year. This is his sixth selection to the All-Star Game.

### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	121	12	2	1.79	0

## DAVID CONE

PITCHER  
NEW YORK YANKEES



PHILLIPS/ALB PHOTOS

Cone, one of the league leaders in strikeouts, is pitching in his fourth All-Star Game and first as a Yankee. He ranks third among active pitchers in lowest ERA over the past decade.

### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
18	127	8	3	2.62	0



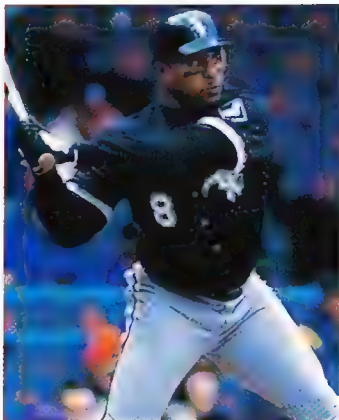
**BRADY ANDERSON**OUTFIELD  
BALTIMORE ORIOLES

GREENGLASS PHOTOS

Anderson is making his third trip to the Midsummer Classic. Coming off a 50-home run season last year, the Orioles outfielder has established himself as a deadly leadoff hitter.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
297	49	92	7	40	.310

**ALBERT BELLE**OUTFIELD  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX

MLB PHOTOS

This slugger put together a 27-game hitting streak during the first half of the season and is displaying his usual power at the plate. This is Belle's fifth All-Star Game selection.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
314	47	92	18	66	.293

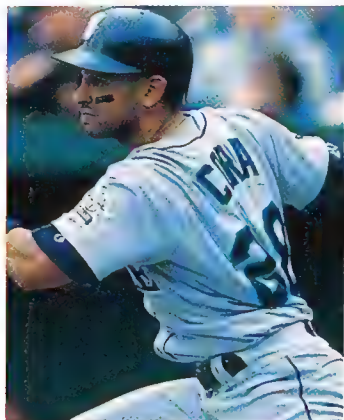
**JEFF CIRILLO**THIRD BASE  
MILWAUKEE BREWERS

PILGRIM PHOTOS

This third-year infielder is making his first appearance in the Midsummer Classic. Cirillo showed a knack for the clutch hit last year by boasting a .366 batting average after the sixth inning.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
280	39	84	6	51	.300

**JOEY CORA**SECOND BASE  
SEATTLE MARINERS

KEENE PHOTOS

A career .272 hitter, Cora's having his best season at the plate by far—he led AL second basemen in batting through late June. This is the 32-year-old's first Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
279	53	92	7	31	.330

**JASON DICKSON**PITCHER  
ANAHEIM ANGELS

VISELWALA PHOTOS

Dickson, the workhorse of the Angels pitching staff, earned his first trip to the Midsummer Classic by being the American League's best rookie hurler during the first half of the season.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	112.2	8	4	3.51	0

**NOMAR GARCIAPARRA**SHORTSTOP  
BOSTON RED SOX

GREENGLASS PHOTOS

A leading candidate for AL Rookie of the Year honors, this 23-year-old Red Sox shortstop has all the tools that are necessary to become a star—both with the lumber and with the leather.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
326	56	95	12	42	.291



# American League



## HONORARY CAPTAIN

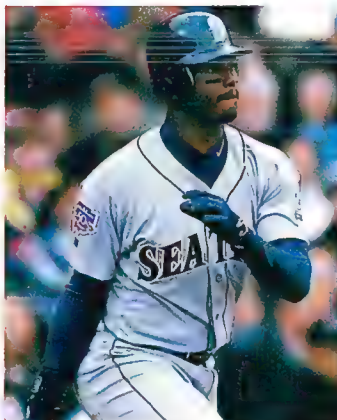


PHOTO BY GLENDA B. PHOTOS

### LARRY DOBY

Doby left a mark in Cleveland that will be remembered forever when, in 1947, he became the first African-American to play in the American League. He was a six-time All-Star.

### KEN GRIFFEY, JR. OUTFIELD SEATTLE MARINERS



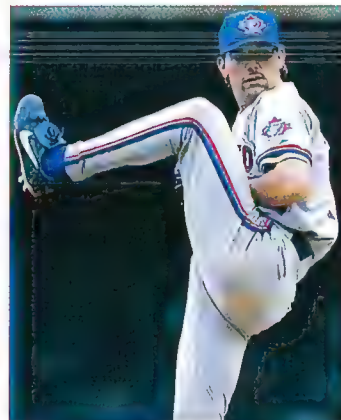
GREENGLASS PHOTOS

With his home-run stroke sweeter than ever, Griffey is on pace to chase Maris' mark of 61 in '61. The 27-year-old center fielder has been selected to play in eight Midsummer Classics.

#### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
296	64	92	29	79	.311

### PAT HENTGEN PITCHER TORONTO BLUE JAYS



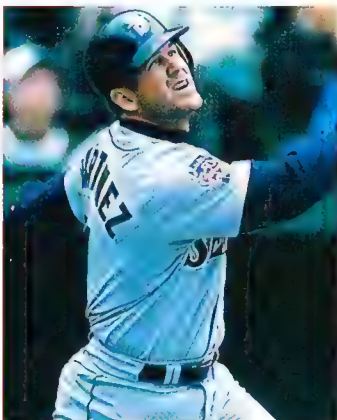
MLB PHOTOS

A 20-10 record and 3.22 ERA last year earned Hentgen American League Cy Young Award honors. Hentgen has been dominating again in 1997 and is pitching in his third All-Star Game.

#### 1997 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	135.2	8	4	3.18	0

### EDGAR MARTINEZ DESIGNATED HITTER SEATTLE MARINERS



PILLINGHAM PHOTOS

One of the game's best pure hitters for the past eight seasons, Martinez became the first player to be elected as a designated hitter. It's his fourth appearance in the All-Star Game.

#### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
291	57	97	12	58	.333

### TINO MARTINEZ FIRST BASE NEW YORK YANKEES



PILLINGHAM PHOTOS

Among the AL leaders in home runs and RBI, this Yankee first baseman drove in 34 runs in the month of April to set a Major League record. This is his second All-Star Game selection.

#### 1997 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
305	55	94	28	76	.308





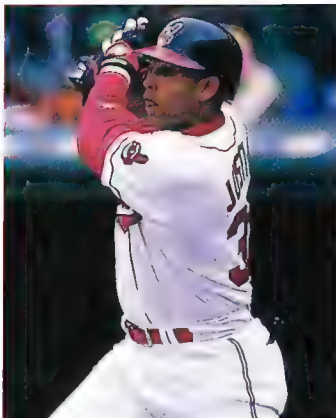
**RANDY JOHNSON**PITCHER  
SEATTLE MARINERS

VESELY/AB PHOTOS

Johnson, a five-time All-Star, missed most of last season because of back injuries, but he's regained his old form in 1997 and has been among the AL's best in strikeouts, wins and ERA.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	124	11	2	2.18	0

**DAVID JUSTICE**OUTFIELD  
CLEVELAND INDIANS

REID/AB PHOTOS

This three-time All-Star has had no problem adjusting to the American League. Justice is on pace for 35 HR and more than 90 RBI to go along with an average well above .300.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
218	44	73	17	47	.335

**CHUCK KNOBLAUCH**SECOND BASE  
MINNESOTA TWINS

GREENE/AB PHOTOS

This is Knoblauch's second straight All-Star Game appearance and his fourth overall. The Twins second baseman singled in his only at-bat in last season's Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
293	61	86	4	35	.294

**MARK MCGWIRE**FIRST BASE  
OAKLAND ATHLETICS

CARLSON/AB PHOTOS

Among the league's HR leaders, this powerhouse has already crushed four mammoth homers longer than 460 feet this season and is making his ninth trip to the Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
277	40	76	29	62	.274

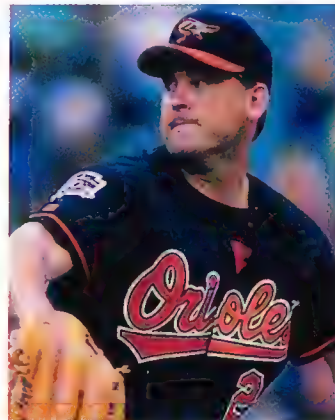
**MIKE MUSSINA**PITCHER  
BALTIMORE ORIOLES

DELUCA/AB PHOTOS

The ace of the Orioles pitching staff, Mussina has been nearly perfect so far in 1997 and has already flirted with a perfect game. He's pitching in his fourth All-Star Game this year.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	109.1	9	2	3.29	0

**RANDY MYERS**PITCHER  
BALTIMORE ORIOLES

PILGIM/AB PHOTOS

Myers has been one of the premiere closers in the Major Leagues for nearly a decade. This is his first All-Star Game as an American Leaguer after three appearances for the NL.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
33	31.1	1	3	1.44	25



# American League



## UMPIRES



**LARRY BARNETT**  
HOME PLATE

In his 29th big league season, Barnett is making his fifth appearance in the Midsummer Classic, more than any other American League umpire.



**DREW COBLE**  
SECOND BASE

This 16-year veteran, who resides in Graham, N.C., during the offseason, is making his second appearance as an umpire in the All-Star Game.



**TERRY CRAFT**  
LEFT FIELD

Craft, who served on active duty in the Army for seven years, joined the American League staff in 1993 and is umpiring his first All-Star Game.

**CAL RIPKEN, JR.**  
THIRD BASE  
BALTIMORE ORIOLES



Baseball's iron man moved from shortstop to a new position this year, but Ripken was still selected as a starting infielder in the Midsummer Classic, for the 14th season in a row.

1997 STATS						
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG	
306	37	88	10	48	.288	

**JOSE ROSADO**  
PITCHER  
KANSAS CITY ROYALS



In just his second big league season, Rosado boasts one of the American League's best ERAs at the midpoint of the season. Rosado, a first-time All-Star, went 8-6 for the Royals last year.

1997 STATS						
G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV	
17	117.2	7	4	3.29	0	

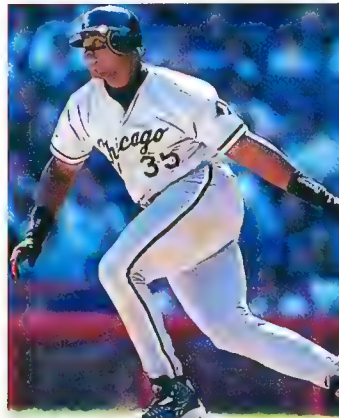
**MARIANO RIVERA**  
PITCHER  
NEW YORK YANKEES



After establishing himself as one of the game's best relievers last year, Rivera has adjusted to his new role as the Yankee closer. This is his first appearance in the All-Star Game.

1997 STATS						
G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV	
35	40.1	2	2	2.01	26	

**FRANK THOMAS**  
FIRST BASE  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX



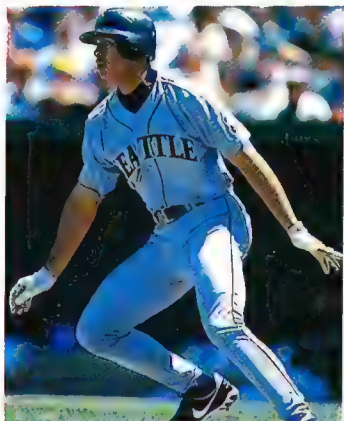
The big White Sox first baseman was flirting with a .400 batting average as late as mid-June. This year is the fifth-consecutive season in which Thomas was selected as an All-Star.

1997 STATS						
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG	
234	54	89	16	59	.380	



All statistics are through June 29, 1997.

**ALEX RODRIGUEZ**  
SHORTSTOP  
SEATTLE MARINERS



KEITH B. PHOTO

This shortstop has done it all for the Mariners in his first two seasons, providing great defense, power at the plate and a high batting average. This is his second All-Star Game.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
280	53	90	10	38	.321

**IVAN RODRIGUEZ**  
CATCHER  
TEXAS RANGERS



CARROLL B. PHOTO

This Texas signal-caller has become known as one of the best defensive catchers in the Major Leagues. This is his sixth-consecutive appearance as a Midsummer Classic backstop.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
314	50	110	10	39	.350



ANAHEIM ANGELS

**RICK SMITH**  
ANAHEIM ANGELS



CLEVELAND INDIANS

**JIMMY WARFIELD**  
CLEVELAND INDIANS

**JUSTIN THOMPSON**  
PITCHER  
DETROIT TIGERS



DELUCIA B. PHOTO

This young southpaw from Detroit is making his first trip to the All-Star Game in just his second big league season. His ERA has hovered around 3.00 through most of the first half.

**1997 STATS**

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	113.1	7	6	2.94	0

**BERNIE WILLIAMS**  
OUTFIELD  
NEW YORK YANKEES



FILIPINO B. PHOTO

To go along with outstanding defense in center field, this 28-year-old also provides the Yankees with a high average and power from both sides. This is his first Midsummer Classic.

**1997 STATS**

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
262	54	83	10	50	.317







## National League

### MANAGER

Bobby Cox  
Atlanta Braves

### COACHES

Dusty Baker  
San Francisco Giants

Bruce Bochy  
San Diego Padres

### TRAINERS

Ron McClain  
Montreal Expos  
  
Charlie Strasser  
Los Angeles Dodgers

### HONORARY CAPTAIN

Frank Robinson

NO.	PLAYER	CLUB	B	T	HT.	WT.	BORN	BIRTHPLACE
18	Moises Alou	Marlins	R	R	6-3	195	7-3-66	Atlanta, GA
5	Jeff Bagwell	Astros	R	R	6-0	195	5-27-68	Boston, MA
47	Rod Beck	Giants	R	R	6-1	236	8-3-68	Burbank, CA
7	Craig Biggio	Astros	R	R	5-11	180	12-14-65	Smithtown, NY
4	Jeff Blauser	Braves	R	R	6-1	180	11-8-65	Los Gatos, CA
25	Barry Bonds	Giants	L	L	6-2	206	7-24-64	Riverside, CA
27	Kevin Brown	Marlins	R	R	6-4	195	3-14-65	McIntyre, GA
21	Ken Caminiti	Padres	S	R	6-0	200	4-21-63	Hanford, CA
55	Shawn Estes	Giants	L	L	6-2	195	2-18-73	San Bernardino, CA
14	Andres Galarraga	Rockies	R	R	6-3	235	6-18-61	Caracas, Venezuela
47	Tom Glavine	Braves	L	L	6-1	185	3-25-66	Concord, MA
17	Mark Grace	Cubs	L	L	6-2	195	6-28-64	Winston-Salem, NC
19	Tony Gwynn	Padres	L	L	5-11	220	5-9-60	Los Angeles, CA
9	Todd Hundley	Mets	S	R	5-11	185	5-27-69	Martinsville, VA
28	Bobby Jones	Mets	R	R	6-4	225	2-10-70	Fresno, CA
10	Chipper Jones	Braves	S	R	6-3	200	4-24-72	De Land, FL
57	Darryl Kile	Astros	R	R	6-5	185	12-2-68	Garden Grove, CA
16	Ray Lankford	Cardinals	L	L	5-11	198	6-5-67	Modesto, CA
11	Barry Larkin	Reds	R	R	6-0	195	4-28-64	Cincinnati, OH
7	Kenny Lofton	Braves	L	L	6-0	180	5-31-67	East Chicago, IN
8	Javier Lopez	Braves	R	R	6-3	200	11-5-70	Ponce, P.R.
31	Greg Maddux	Braves	R	R	6-0	175	4-14-66	San Angelo, TX
45	Pedro Martinez	Expos	R	R	5-11	175	7-25-71	Manogayabo, D.R.
15	Denny Neagle	Braves	L	L	6-2	225	9-13-68	Gambrills, MD
31	Mike Piazza	Dodgers	R	R	6-3	215	9-4-68	Norristown, PA
38	Curt Schilling	Phillies	R	R	6-4	226	11-14-66	Anchorage, AK
33	Larry Walker	Rockies	L	R	6-3	225	12-1-66	Maple Ridge, B.C.
5	Tony Womack	Pirates	L	R	5-9	155	9-25-69	Danville, VA



## American League

### MANAGER

Joe Torre  
New York Yankees

### COACHES

Mike Hargrove  
Cleveland Indians

Johnny Oates  
Texas Rangers

### TRAINERS

Rick Smith  
Anaheim Angels  
  
Jimmy Warfield  
Cleveland Indians

### HONORARY CAPTAIN

Larry Doby

NO.	PLAYER	CLUB	B	T	HT.	WT.	BORN	BIRTHPLACE
12	Roberto Alomar	Orioles	S	R	6-0	185	2-5-68	Ponce, P.R.
15	Sandy Alomar, Jr.	Indians	R	R	6-5	220	6-18-66	Salinas, P.R.
9	Brady Anderson	Orioles	L	L	6-1	190	1-18-64	Silver Spring, MD
8	Albert Belle	White Sox	R	R	6-2	225	8-25-66	Shreveport, LA
26	Jeff Cirillo	Brewers	R	R	6-2	188	9-23-69	Pasadena, CA
21	Roger Clemens	Blue Jays	R	R	6-4	230	8-4-62	Dayton, OH
36	David Cone	Yankees	L	R	6-1	190	1-2-63	Kansas City, MO
28	Joey Cora	Mariners	S	R	5-8	155	5-14-65	Caguas, P.R.
19	Jason Dickson	Angels	L	R	6-0	190	3-30-73	London, Ontario
5	Nomar Garciaparra	Red Sox	R	R	6-0	167	7-23-73	Whittier, CA
24	Ken Griffey, Jr.	Mariners	L	L	6-3	205	11-21-69	Donora, PA
41	Pat Hentgen	Blue Jays	R	R	6-2	200	11-13-68	Detroit, MI
51	Randy Johnson	Mariners	R	L	6-10	225	9-10-63	Walnut Creek, CA
33	David Justice	Indians	L	L	6-3	200	4-14-66	Cincinnati, OH
11	Chuck Knoblauch	Twins	R	R	5-9	169	7-7-68	Houston, TX
11	Edgar Martinez	Mariners	R	R	5-11	190	1-2-63	New York, NY
24	Tino Martinez	Yankees	L	R	6-2	210	12-7-67	Tampa, FL
25	Mark McGwire	Athletics	R	R	6-5	250	10-1-63	Pomona, CA
35	Mike Mussina	Orioles	R	R	6-1	180	12-8-68	Williamsport, PA
28	Randy Myers	Orioles	L	L	6-1	225	9-19-62	Vancouver, WA
8	Cal Ripken, Jr.	Orioles	R	R	6-4	220	8-24-60	Havre de Grace, MD
42	Mariano Rivera	Yankees	R	R	6-2	168	11-29-69	Panama City, Panama
3	Alex Rodriguez	Mariners	R	R	6-3	190	7-27-75	New York, NY
7	Ivan Rodriguez	Rangers	R	R	5-9	205	11-30-71	Vega Baja, P.R.
50	Jose Rosado	Royals	L	L	6-0	175	11-9-74	Jersey City, NJ
35	Frank Thomas	White Sox	R	R	6-5	257	5-27-68	Columbus, GA
22	Justin Thompson	Tigers	L	L	6-3	175	3-8-73	San Antonio, TX
51	Bernie Williams	Yankees	S	R	6-2	205	9-13-68	San Juan, P.R.



# 1997 ALL STAR GAME SCORECARD SECTION

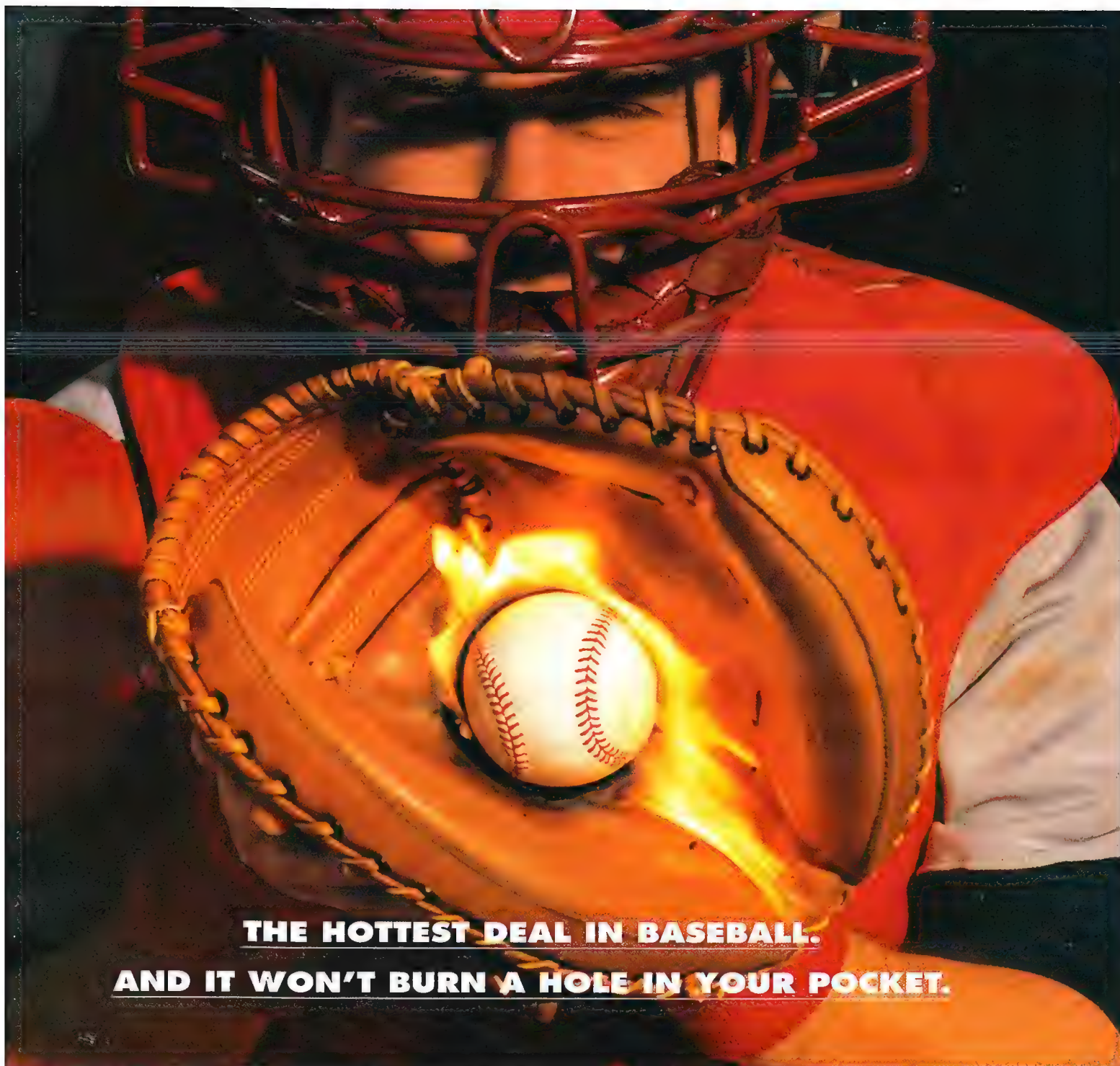


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TIME
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UMPIRES
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IP H R E B B S

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# How To Score

**D**ifferent fans have different methods of keeping a scorecard, and many use their own notations. But here's a simple method:

First fill in the starting line-up. When the game begins, start in the column corresponding to the correct inning and go to the box next to the name of the hitter who is at the plate. If the hitter makes an out, write down how he was put out according to the legend below. If the hitter grounds out to shortstop, for example, write in "6-3," which shows that the shortstop threw him out at first base. The notation for a fly to left, for example, would be "F7."

If the batter gets a hit, pencil in the hit according to which base he reached. The corners of the box represent the bases, with the lower-right cor-

ner being first. If he singles, pencil in a "-" in the lower right. If he doubles, pencil in a "=" in the upper right, and so on. If he walks, pencil in "BB" in the lower right. As the runner advances, mark the appropriate symbol in the appropriate corner.

If a runner scores, put a circle at the bottom of the box, and inside the circle put the symbol of the play and/or the player that drove him in. For example, if the number five hitter drives in two runs with a single, mark his single in the bottom right of his box and mark a circle with the number "5" in it in the boxes of the runners who score.

At the end of each inning, total the hits and runs for that inning only. At the end of the game you'll be able to add the innings total to arrive at the game score.

## SAMPLE SCORESHEET

### Number Players As Follows:

- 1 - Pitcher
- 2 - Catcher
- 3 - First Baseman
- 4 - Second Baseman
- 5 - Third Baseman
- 6 - Shortstop
- 7 - Left Fielder
- 8 - Center Fielder
- 9 - Right Fielder
- DH - Designated Hitter (Used exclusively in the American League)

### Symbols For Plays:

- Single —
- Double ==
- Triple ===
- Home Run ———
- Sacrifice — SH

- Walk — BB
- Strikeout — K
- Balk — BK
- Foul Fly — F
- Fielders Choice — FC

- Hit By Pitch — HP
- Wild Pitch — WP
- Passed Ball — PB
- Stolen Base — SB
- Force Out — FO

### INNING 1

singled, advanced to 2nd on next batter's walk, took 3rd on fielder's choice, scored on No. 4 batter's double

walked, later forced out, shortstop to 2nd base

reached on fielder's choice, advanced to 3rd on next batter's double, scored on No. 5 batter's single

doubled, scored on No. 5 batter's single

singled, advanced to 2nd on next batter's single, stole 3rd base, thrown out on grounder, shortstop to catcher

singled, stole 2nd base

reached 1st on fielder's choice

popped out to 2nd base

doubled

### INNING 2

flied out to centerfield

popped out to shortstop

struck out swinging

Team	1	2
Center Fielder	3 2 ④ —	8
Shortstop	6-4 BB	6
1st Baseman	3 ⑤ FC	K
3rd Baseman	⑤	=
Right Fielder	SB 2 6-2	
Left Fielder	SB	
Designated Hitter	FC	
2nd Baseman	4	
Catcher		
Totals	R H 3 4	0 1

### Additional Symbols:

- IBB — Intentional Walk
- N — Called out on strikes
- L — Line Drive
- B — Bunt
- U — Unassisted





# COMO ANOTAR EL JUEGO

**D**istintos fanáticos tienen diferentes métodos de llevar la anotación, además muchos usan sus propios signos o símbolos. Pero hay un metodo mas sencillo.

Primero escriba la alineación inicial. Cuando el juego comience, anote en la columna correspondiente a la entrada correcta y vaya a el encasillado al lado del nombre de el bateador que está en el plato. Si el bateador es puesto fuera (out), escriba que fué out, de acuerdo a la leyenda que sigue a continuación. Si el bateador conecta arrastrado al jardinero corto, por ejemplo, anote "6-3", señalando que el paracorto tiró a primera base para retirarlo de out. El símbolo utilizado para anotar un elevado al jardín izquierdo, por ejemplo, sería "F 7".

Si el bateador batea un indiscutible, anótelos de acuerdo a la base alcanzada. Las esquinas del cuadrado representan las bases, la esquina inferi-

or derecha sería la primera base. Si él conecta un sencillo, anote "-" en el lado derecho inferior. Si conecta doblete, escriba "=" en el lado superior derecho, y así sucesivamente. Si recibe una base por bola, escriba "BB" en el lado derecho inferior. Según los corredores vayan avanzando, escriba el símbolo apropiado en la respectiva esquina.

Si un corredor anota, ponga un círculo en la base del cuadrado, dentro ponga el símbolo de la jugada y/o el jugador que empujó la carrera. Por ejemplo, si el quinto bateador empujó dos carreras con un sencillo, anote su sencillo en el lado derecho inferior del cuadrado y dibuje un círculo con el número "5" en las casillas de los corredores que anotaron.

Al finalizar cada entrada, sume todos los in-conjibles y carreras de esa entrada solamente. Al final del juego usted podrá sumar los totales de cada entrada, llegando a la anotación final.

## MUESTRA DE UNA LIBRETA DE ANOTACIÓN

### Numero Los Peloteros de la Sigüiente Manera:

- 1 - Lanzador
  - 2 - Receptor
  - 3 - Primera Base
  - 4 - Segunda Base
  - 5 - Tercera Base
  - 6 - Jardinero Corto
  - 7 - Jardinero Izquierdo
  - 8 - Jardinero Central
  - 9 - Jardinero Derecho
  - DH - Bateador Designado
- (Usado exclusivamente en los parques de la liga Americana)

### Símbolos Para Anotar Jugadas:

- Sencillo —
- Doble =
- Triple ≡
- Cuadrangular ≡
- Sacrificio - SAC
- Base por Bola - BB
- Ponche - P
- Movimiento Ilegal - MI
- Elevado de Faul - F
- Jugada de Selección - JS
- Pelotazo - PO
- Lanzamiento Errático - LE
- Pasbol - PB
- Base Robada - BR
- Jugada Forzada - JF

Equipo	1	2
Jardinero Central	3 2 ④ —	8
Jardinero Corto	6-4 BB	6
Primera Base	3 ⑤ JS	P
Tercera Base	⑤ =	
Jardinero Derecho	BR 2 6-2	
Jardinero Izquierdo	BR	
Bateador Designado	JS	
Segunda Base	4	
Receptor		
Totales	R H 3 4 0 1	

### PRIMERA ENTRADA

Conectó sencillo, avanzó a segunda base por bola recibida por el siguiente bateador, adelantó a tercera por jugada de selección anoto por doble del No. 4 bateador

Recibió base por bola, mas tarde fue forzado en la segunda base, de jardinero corto a el defensor del segundo saco

Llegó a primera, por jugada de selección, avanzó a tercera base por doblete del próximo bateador, anotó por sencillo del No. 5 bateador

Pegó doble, anotó por sencillo del No. 5 bateador

Conectó sencillo, avanzó a segunda por incojible del bateador siguiente, se robó la tercera base, fue retirado en el plato. Del paracorto al receptor

Sencillo, se robó la segunda base

Llegó a primera base por jugada de selección

Out, en elevado a segunda

Bateo Doblete

### SEGUNDA ENTRADA

Out, en elevado al jardinero central

Out, en elevado al jardinero corto

Se ponchó tirándole al tercer strike

### Símbolos Adicionales:

- BB1 - Base por Bola Intencional
- PC - Ponchete Cantado
- L - Línea De Cañonazo
- TB - Toque de Bola
- JSA - Jugada sin Asistencia



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OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FIRM TO THE CLEVELAND INDIANS



# Baseball In CLEVELAND



A Special Section  
Highlighting the  
City's Baseball  
Heritage





# BASEBALL

by the Lake

**Call them Spiders. Call them Bronchos. Call them Naps. Call them Indians. Just don't call them boring. By Russell Schneider**

**T**he names are recognizable to only the most discerning and dedicated baseball fans: Davis Hawley, Charles Somers and John Kilfoyl. But there's no doubt that professional baseball in Cleveland as we know it today owes its existence to those three men.

It all began at the turn of the century, when a former sportswriter named Byron "Ban" Johnson came to town with, as some thought, a wild scheme to form a second major baseball league. Johnson initially sought out Hawley, who was the president of one of the city's leading financial institutions and, as it happened, the disillusioned former secretary and treasurer of the most inept professional team to ever stumble onto a baseball diamond: the Cleveland Spiders.

The Spiders played in the National League for 11 years, from 1889 until they were evicted after the disastrous 1899 season, in which they won only 20 games and lost 134, a record for fu-



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME LIBRARY

TIMELINE ILLUSTRATIONS BY DARYL STEVENS

## CLEVELAND BASEBALL TIMELINE

**1899**

The Cleveland Spiders finish the season with a 20-134 record. The franchise is dropped by the National League.



**FEBRUARY 21:** Charles Somers and John Kilfoyle agree to bankroll a new franchise, which is nicknamed the "Blues."

**1900**

**APRIL 24:** The Blues lose their first-ever game, 8-2, to the White Sox in Chicago. It's also the first American League game.

**1901**

**1904**

The nickname of the Cleveland franchise is changed from "Blues" to "Bronchos"

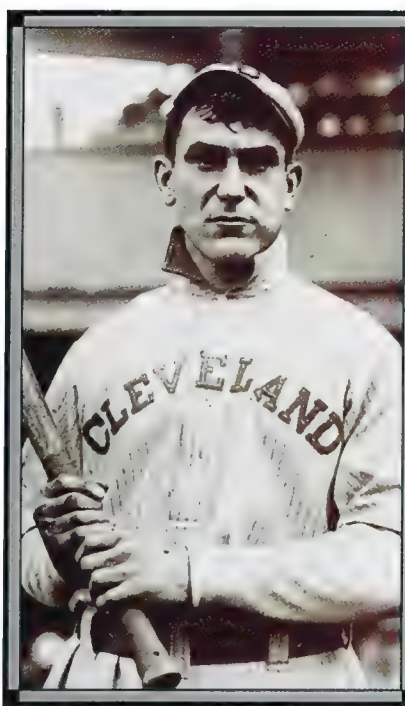
**JUNE:** Bronchos acquire second baseman Napoleon Lajoie and pitcher Bill Bernhard from the Philadelphia Athletics.



The nickname of the Cleveland franchise is changed again, this time from "Bronchos" to "Naps," in honor of star second baseman Napoleon Lajoie.

**1903**





tility that has still never been equaled.

At the time of his visit to Cleveland in February 1900, Ban Johnson was the president of the Western League, a Minor League with franchises in Grand Rapids (Mich.), St. Paul, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Detroit, Indianapolis and Buffalo.

Johnson approached Hawley and outlined his plan to compete with the long-established National League by moving the Grand Rapids franchise to Cleveland and the St. Paul team to Chicago. Johnson also announced that, henceforth, the Western League would be renamed the "American League," and be reclassified to "major" status.

Hawley, embittered by his experience with the Spiders—and considerably poorer as well, because the team had been as unsuccessful at the box office as it had been on the field—was interested in Johnson's proposal. He suggested, however, that Johnson would need someone younger and more enthusiastic to operate a franchise in Cleveland, and recommended Somers, who was in the coal business with his father, and Kilfoyl, who owned a men's clothing store and whose family was in real estate.

After meeting with Johnson, the two young businessmen, both in their early thirties, agreed to finance the club being transferred from Grand Rapids. Kilfoyl was established as president and treasurer, and Somers as vice president.

Soon thereafter, Somers got even more involved. In addition to his position with the new Cleveland club, then

Opposite page: The 1889 Cleveland Spiders. This page, upper left: Byron "Ban" Johnson started it all for the Indians. Upper right: Nap Lajoie, of Cleveland "Naps" fame. Left: The 1902 Cleveland Blues.

1904

**MID-SEASON:** Napoleon Lajoie replaces William Armour as the third player-manager of the Cleveland franchises.

1908

**SPRING TRAINING:** Charles Somers rejects a trade offer from Tigers manager Hughie Jennings that would have sent Ty Cobb from Detroit to Cleveland in exchange for Elmer Flick.

**OCTOBER:** The Naps finish second to Detroit by one-half game because they have played (and lost) one more game than the Tigers.



**MID-SEASON:**

Napoleon Lajoie is replaced as manager of the Naps by James McGuire, but remains as the team's second baseman.

The franchise's nickname is changed from "Naps" to "Indians" in honor of Louis Sockalexis, the first American Indian to play Major League Baseball (for the Cleveland Spiders of the National League from 1897-99).

1909

1915

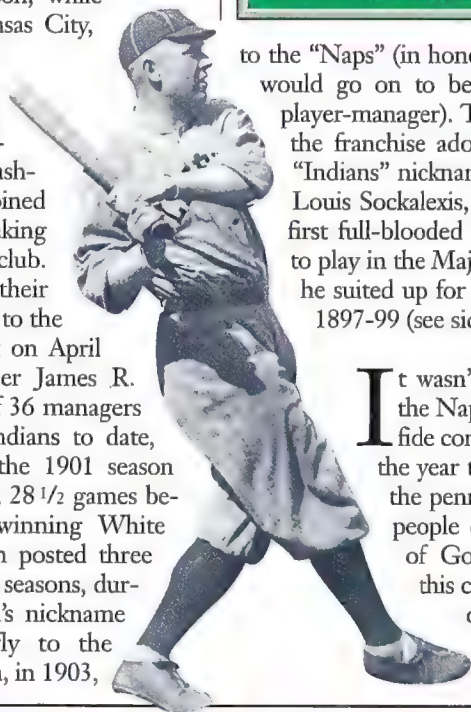


known as the "Blues" (a reference to the team's bright blue uniforms and to an earlier American Association team that had played in the city in 1887-88), Somers decided to lend money to the owners of three financially floundering franchises in Johnson's new league—Boston, Philadelphia and St. Louis (which had replaced Milwaukee). Without Somers' help, those three teams—and the fledgling league as well—probably would have folded.

As it turned out, Somers' financial aid to Philadelphia Athletics owner Connie Mack helped the Cleveland club. Because of it, Mack literally gave future Hall of Fame second baseman Napoleon Lajoie and pitcher Bill Bernhard—both of whom had been legally restrained from playing in Pennsylvania because they had jumped from the Philadelphia Phillies of the National League to the Athletics—to Cleveland in 1902.

Of Johnson's original eight franchises, only four (Cleveland, Milwaukee, Chicago and Detroit) opened the inaugural 1901 season, while the other four (Kansas City, Minneapolis, Indianapolis and Buffalo) were replaced by Baltimore, Philadelphia, Boston and Washington. St. Louis joined the league in 1902, taking over the Milwaukee club.

The Blues lost their first-ever game, 8-2, to the Chicago White Sox on April 24, 1901, and under James R. McAleer, the first of 36 managers employed by the Indians to date, the Blues finished the 1901 season with a 54-82 record, 28 1/2 games behind the pennant-winning White Sox. The team then posted three consecutive winning seasons, during which the team's nickname was changed briefly to the "Bronchos" and then, in 1903,



Top left: Elmer Flick could have been a Tiger.  
Bottom right and right: Bob Feller was a two-uniform guy.  
Bottom left: Tris Speaker.

to the "Naps" (in honor of Lajoie, who would go on to become the team's player-manager). Twelve years later, the franchise adopted the current "Indians" nickname as a tribute to Louis Sockalexis, who became the first full-blooded American Indian to play in the Major Leagues when he suited up for the Spiders from 1897-99 (see sidebar, page 176).

It wasn't until 1908 that the Naps became a bona fide contender. That was the year that the team lost the pennant to—as some people claimed—"an act of God." The act, in this case, was a rained-out game against the Tigers on August 25.

The game wasn't made up, and as fate would have it, the Tigers finished with a 90-63 record and .588 winning percentage—a half-game and four percentage points ahead of the Naps. This unfortunate incident led to the adoption of the rule that requires postponed games to be rescheduled if they might have a bearing on the pennant race.

Of course, the Indians might not have had to sweat out a pennant race if Somers hadn't rejected a trade offer during Spring Training from Detroit manager Hughie Jennings that would have sent Ty Cobb, then only 21, to Cleveland for veteran outfielder Elmer Flick.

When Somers asked Jennings why the Tigers wanted to unload Cobb, Jennings reportedly replied, "He can't get along with our players...we want harmony on this team, not scrapping."

Somers, apparently, was a big fan of

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME LIBRARY (4)

CLEVELAND BASEBALL  
TIMELINE

1916

FEBRUARY 21: Charles Somers sells the Indians to a group of investors headed by James C. "Sunny Jim" Dunn for \$500,000.



OCTOBER: The Indians win their first AL pennant with a 98-56 record, finishing ahead of the White Sox by two games.  
OCTOBER 10: The Indians make World Series history as Bill Wambgsans makes the only unassisted triple play, Jim Bagby becomes the first pitcher to hit a home run, and Elmer Smith hits the first grand slam.

1920

OCTOBER 12: The Indians top Brooklyn, 3-0, to win their first World Series.



1927

NOVEMBER 17: The Indians are sold by the widow of James Dunn to a group of investors headed by Alva Bradley for \$1 million.





Back in 1954, Tim and Richard Smucker hit hundreds of make-believe home runs, while the Indians were winning a record 111 games. Today, the Smuckers celebrate 100 years of family-made goodness.



With a name like Smucker's,  
it has to be good.®





Far left: Ray Chapman was killed by a pitch in 1920. Silhouetted photo: Joe Sewell replaced Chapman and helped the Indians win their first World Series. Left: Louisiana governor Huey Long and Tribe owner Alva Bradley.

harmony, too. "We'll keep Flick," he announced once the deal had been dashed. "Maybe he isn't as good a batter as Cobb, but he's much nicer to have on the team."

Flick was actually a good hitter—he finished with a .313 career average and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1963—but Cobb, of course, went on to play for another 20 years, win 12 batting titles and compile baseball's all-time best career batting average, .366.

The heartbreaking pennant loss in 1908 devastated the players, fans and especially John Kilfoyl, who reportedly took it so hard that health problems forced him to retire. His departure left Somers as the sole owner and chief executive officer of the club.

From 1909 through 1917, the Naps and Indians finished as high as third three times (1911, 1913, 1917), though never closer than 9 1/2 games behind the leader. They suffered the franchise's first 100-loss season in 1914 with a record of 51-102, 48 1/2 games behind Philadelphia.

Finally, in 1918, the Indians made another run at the pennant. Somers, unfortunately, wasn't around to enjoy the

team's best performance in 10 years. Partly because of the hard times that had befallen the team and partly because of unwise investments, Somers was nearly \$2 million in debt by 1916. To avoid bankruptcy, Somers sold the Indians in February 1916 for \$500,000 to a group of investors headed by Chicago businessman James C. "Sunny Jim" Dunn.

Two months after taking control of the Indians, Dunn swung a deal with the Boston Red Sox that is still considered the best trade in franchise history. On April 8, 1916, future Hall of

Fame center fielder Tris Speaker was acquired for pitcher "Sad Sam" Jones, third baseman Fred Thomas and \$55,000.

Speaker hit .386 to win the American League batting championship in 1916, and two years later the Indians' bid to win the pennant fell just short. (Interestingly, a scheduling glitch reminiscent of the one that helped deny the Tribe the '08 pennant may have cost them the flag in 1918, as well. Because of World War I, the season

ended on September 1. The Indians schedule was cut by 27 games, and they finished second with a 73-54 record, 2 1/2 games behind the Red Sox, who would go on to win the World Series.)

The Indians also finished second in 1919, during which Speaker became the team's ninth manager. But this was one Indians team that would not be denied, and the Speaker-led Tribe finally won the franchise's first pennant in 1920—despite the untimely death of a very popular player. On August 17, a day after he was hit in the head by a pitch thrown by Carl Mays of the New York Yankees, Indians shortstop Ray Chapman died in a New York hospital.

Three weeks later, the team called up 21-year-old Joe Sewell from the Minors. Sewell—who would go on to have a stellar career (he was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1977)—took over at shortstop and helped the Indians beat the Brooklyn Robins five games to two in the World Series.

Despite their success in 1920, the Indians couldn't repeat in 1921, finishing second to New York. That began a string of 27 also-ran seasons under eight managers and two new owners.



Lou Boudreau, the Cleveland Indians "Boy Manager."

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME LIBRARY (3); ASSOCIATED PRESS (LONG/BRADLEY)

CLEVELAND BASEBALL TIMELINE

**1932** JULY 31: Cleveland Municipal Stadium, built at a cost of \$3 million, is opened. The Indians lose their first game there, 1-0, to Lefty Grove and the Philadelphia Athletics.

**1935** JULY 8: A crowd of 69,831 sees the American League beat the National League, 4-1, in the third All-Star Game—and the first of five played in Cleveland.

**1940**

APRIL 16: Bob Feller pitches the only Opening Day no-hitter in history, beating the White Sox, 1-0, in Chicago.



**SEPTEMBER 27:**

Bob Feller and the Indians lose to Floyd Giebell and the Tigers, 2-0, clinching the pennant for Detroit.

**1941** NOVEMBER 24: Lou Boudreau, the Indians' 24-year-old shortstop, replaces Roger Peckinpaugh as the team's 15th manager. The youngest skipper in baseball history, he's dubbed the "Boy Manager."



**1946** JUNE 22: The Indians are sold by Alva Bradley to Bill Veeck for \$1.1 million.





# JACKIE ROBINSON WAS THE FIRST. LARRY DOBY MADE SURE HE WASN'T THE LAST.

*Behind every hero, there's a story.*

Only eleven weeks after Branch Rickey signed Jackie Robinson, Cleveland Indians' owner Bill Veeck bought the contract of a young Negro Leaguer named Larry Doby.

Though his name is not as heralded, Larry Doby went on to have a distinguished career as the first African-American in the American League\*. Playing through the same distractions and insults that Robinson was forced to endure, Doby was elected to play in the All-Star Game\* six straight years and became the first African-American to win a Major League™ home run crown. And he's just one of the heroes whose story will be told on American Sports Classics.

More than a replay of historic games and legendary matches, American Sports Classics reveals the story behind the history. And the courage and determination that made it all possible.

Beginning this Summer, American Sports Classics will stand alone in its ability to bring past and present heroes to life. Like the story of a ball player who was second to none.

**AMERICAN SPORTS CLASSICS**  
*A New Cable Television Network Coming This Summer.*



On November 17, 1927, the franchise was purchased by a group headed by Alva Bradley for \$1 million. Although the Indians would finish higher than third only once under Bradley's stewardship, he did oversee the construction of Cleveland Municipal Stadium, which replaced League Park and opened for play on July 31, 1932, when more than 80,000 spectators saw the Indians lose the first game in the mammoth park to Philadelphia, 1-0.

Bradley's closest brush with a title came in 1940. That year, Cleveland fans were buzzing with excitement, because the Indians, who were coming off six straight winning seasons with nothing to show for them, looked like they might finally win another pennant.

Unfortunately, the relationship between manager Ossie Vitt and the players seemed to be undermining the team's on-field success. Following Bob Feller's Opening Day no-hitter, the atmosphere in the clubhouse and dugout deteriorated into a tension-filled mess, which culminated in a June 13 meeting between Bradley and 11 players, who presented the owner with a petition calling for the ouster of Vitt.

The problem, it seems, was that while Vitt—for all his managerial talent—was fond of criticizing players in the press. Bradley, however, decided to take no action, and the problem continued to fester. Amazingly, however, the Indians were able to hold their own on the field, and on September 27, with three games left against Detroit in Cleveland, the team was two games behind the Tigers. They would have to sweep the series to win the pennant.

They didn't. Feller gave up a two-run homer to Rudy York, and rookie Floyd Giebell shut out the Indians in the first game, 2-0, ending one of the most torturous years in Indians history.



Top to bottom:  
1935 American  
League All-Stars;  
Willie Mays;  
Gary Carter

#### August 9, 1981, Municipal Stadium National League 5, American League 4

Despite a players' strike, a record crowd saw the National League win for the 10th straight time and 18th in 19 years. Gary Carter hit two solo homers, which tied an All-Star Game record, Pittsburgh's Dave Parker connected in the sixth and Mike Schmidt hit a two-run shot in the eighth. The four homers tied the All-Star Game record for homers by one team.

## THE "ALL-STAR" CITY

**F**irst came Jimmy Foxx. Then Al Rosen, who wasn't supposed to play. Willie Mays followed and took center stage, and Gary Carter finally rounded things out. These four men—Foxx of the A's, Rosen of the Indians, Mays of the Giants, and Carter of the Expos—were the heroes of the first four All-Star Games played in Cleveland, in 1935, 1954, 1963 and 1981.

With this year's Midsummer Classic—the first at Jacobs Field—they'll be joined by another hero as Cleveland becomes the first and only city to boast five All-Star Game visits.

#### July 8, 1935, Municipal Stadium American League 4, National League 1

Jimmy Foxx took care of things early on for the American League, belting a 340-foot, two-run homer in the first inning and driving in the AL's fourth run with a two-out, bases-loaded single in the fifth.

#### July 13, 1954, Municipal Stadium American League 11, National League 9

In the biggest All-Star slugfest to that point, the teams combined for 20 runs, 31 hits, and six home runs, including two by Cleveland's Al Rosen. Rosen—who played with a broken right index finger—drove in five runs with his two homers and a single. He became the third player to hit two homers in one All-Star Game and the second to drive in five runs.

#### July 9, 1963, Municipal Stadium National League 5, American League 3

Although he got only one hit, Willie Mays turned the game into his personal stage by driving in two runs, scoring two, stealing two bases and making a beautiful catch in the eighth inning that ensured the National League's victory. With the teams tied at 3-3 in the fifth, Mays grounded to Joe Pepitone, who stepped on first to retire Mays instead of throwing home. A surprised Mays said later, "I thought he was going to the plate, but I'm glad he did what he did. I don't care how I get runs in. One way or another they all count, don't they?"

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME LIBRARY (2); ASSOCIATED PRESS (1935 ALL-STAR)

#### 1947

JULY 5: Larry Doby becomes the American League's first African-American player and only the second (after Jackie Robinson) in the Major Leagues, when he strikes out in his first at-bat against the White Sox in Chicago.

OCTOBER 4: Gene Bearden pitches a five-hitter for his 20th victory and Lou Boudreau hits two homers as the Indians beat the Red Sox, 8-3, to win the franchise's second pennant in the first-ever regular-season playoff game in baseball history.

OCTOBER 11: Bob Lemon is the winning pitcher as the Indians beat the Boston Braves, 4-3, in the sixth and deciding game of the World Series.

#### 1948

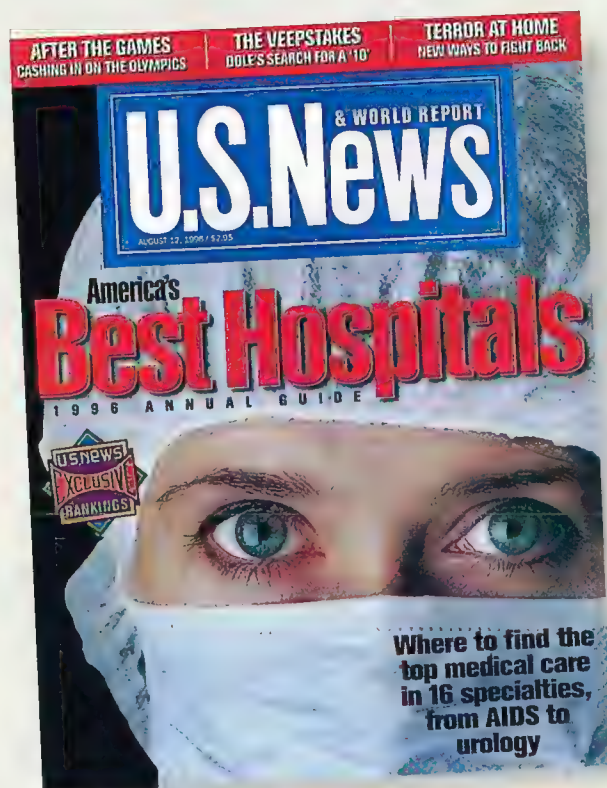


#### 1949

NOVEMBER 21: The Indians are sold for \$2.2 million to a group headed by Ellis Ryan. Successive ownerships include Myron Wilson (1952-58), William Daley (1956-62), Gabe Paul (1963-66), Vernon Stouffer (1966-72), Nick Mileti (1972-75), Alva "Ted" Bonda (1975-78), F.J. "Steve" O'Neill (1978-86) and Richard and David Jacobs (1986-).



# Only One Area Hospital Has Ever Made The Top Ten.



In *U.S. News & World Report's* 1996 ranking of U.S. hospitals, the Cleveland Clinic was again recognized as one of the ten best hospitals in the nation.

The Clinic is the only Ohio hospital in the top ten – a rating the Clinic received for the seventh year in a row. In fact, the Cleveland Clinic has earned this distinction every year since *U.S. News* began ranking hospitals.

Of the 16 specialties evaluated, the Clinic was named among the best in the following 13 – cardiology, cancer, gastroenterology, gynecology, neurology, orthopaedics, rheumatology, urology, AIDS, endocrinology, geriatrics, otolaryngology, and rehabilitation.

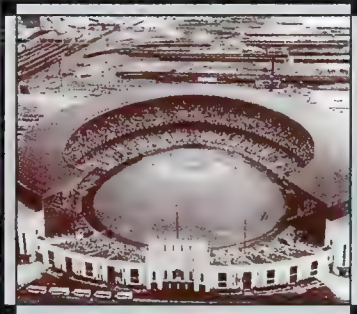
We're proud to be able to offer the finest medical care our nation has to offer. This is a standard of excellence all the staff and employees of the Cleveland Clinic strive for every day.

## THE CLEVELAND CLINIC





Clockwise from upper left: League Park, Jacobs Field and Municipal Stadium



That winter, Bradley replaced Vitt with Roger Peckinpaugh, and then, a year later, with Lou Boudreau, then a 24-year old shortstop with less than three full seasons in the Major Leagues.

Despite an ownership change in 1946, when Bill Veeck purchased the franchise for \$1.1 million, the team continued to flounder under Boudreau. But the new ownership stuck by the young manager, and that loyalty began to pay off in 1948. In a thrilling four-team race with Boston, New York and Philadelphia, the Indians wound up tied for first—something that hadn't happened since 1920—with the Red Sox, forcing a one-game playoff.

In that game, Gene Bearden—who had finished with a 20-7 record and a 2.43 ERA, the only time in his career he had won more than eight games—pitched a five-hitter, while Boudreau hit two homers and Ken Keltner one to take the pennant with an impressive 8-3 victory over the Red Sox.

Riding that momentum, the Indians came back after losing the Series opener to beat the Boston Braves in six games, capping perhaps the best season in Cleveland baseball history with a World Series championship.

But the euphoria didn't last. When the Indians failed to repeat in 1949 and then fell into fourth place in 1950, Boudreau was replaced by Al Lopez. Although the 1954 pennant was the only tangible thing that Lopez and the Indi-

ans had to show for their efforts from 1951 through 1956 (the Tribe was swept by the Giants in the Series), the Indians finished second five times, giving the city six exciting years of baseball.

But after their second-place finish in 1956, the Indians entered another period of futility, this one lasting 37 years. Between 1957 and 1993, under a succession of 20 managers, the Indians finished higher than fourth only twice, in 1959 and again in 1968. The franchise also began to change hands almost as quickly as new managers came and went. From the time Veeck sold the club in November 1949 until 1986, when Richard E. Jacobs and his late brother David bought the franchise for a reported \$35.5 million, the Indians were owned by eight different individuals or groups.

Though it took some time for

the Indians to become a solid contender again, the first step was taken by the Jacobs when they hired Hank Peters as president and general manager in 1987. Peters brought John Hart and Dan O'Dowd into the front office from Balti-

more, then promoted Mike Hargrove from his Minor League managerial job, first as a coach and then as the Indians 36th manager.

When Peters retired in 1991, Hart became vice president and general manager, and he and O'Dowd implemented what came to be known as the "Cleveland Plan," signing the Indians' best young players to extended contracts. The move was designed to protect the club from the loss of its core players to free agency and from salary arbitration confrontations.

Perhaps the true confirmation that the "new" Indians had

1954 36 Cleveland shortstop Al Lopez



NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME LIBRARY (3); GREENE/MLB PHOTOS (JACOBS FIELD)

CLEVELAND BASEBALL  
TIMELINE

1954

JULY 13: Al Rosen, playing with a broken right index finger, hits two home runs to lead the American League to an 11-9 victory over the National League in the second All-Star Game played in Cleveland.



OCTOBER 2: The New York Giants beat the Indians, 7-4, to sweep the World Series.

JULY 9: Willie Mays of the New York Giants sparks the National League to a 5-3 victory over the American League in the third All-Star Game played in Cleveland.

1963

1974

OCTOBER 3: Frank Robinson is hired by the Indians as Major League Baseball's first African-American manager. Robinson becomes the team's 28th manager and fourth player-manager.



1981

MAY 15: Len Barker pitches the 10th perfect game since 1901, beating the Toronto Blue Jays, 3-0, in Cleveland.



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Top: Jim Thome homers. 1995 World Series. Bottom: Omar Vizquel goes deep in the 1996 Division Series.

arrived came with the construction of Jacobs Field, an intimate, baseball-only park with a seating capacity of roughly 43,000. Built in 1994, the new park brought in a franchise record 2,842,725 fans in 1995, then topped that figure with a whopping 3,318,174 in 1996.

It also was in 1994 that the Cleveland Plan began to pay dividends. The Indians finished that strike-shortened season in second place, and then came together in 1995 and 1996, when the team's two-year victory total reached 199, the best in the Major Leagues over that period.

Although they're still trying to win another World Championship after falling short in each of the last two exciting seasons, the new Indians have undoubtedly put a smile on the faces of Davis Hawley, John Kilfoyl and Charles Somers—wherever they are. ★

*Russell Schneider is a freelance writer based in Cleveland.*

# HAIL TO THE CHIEF

It was exactly a century ago, during a game at the Polo Grounds in New York City, that a rookie outfielder playing for the visiting Cleveland Spiders displayed his wondrous batting and fielding skills.

"His fielding was spectacular, his base running supreme, and an ease and grace marked his playing which rarely, if ever, has been equaled," wrote one New York reporter. He was writing about Louis M. Sockalexis, the grandson of the chief of Maine's Penobscot Indian tribe, who had recently been signed to a professional contract by the Spiders, making him the first full-blooded American Indian to play Major League Baseball. (Jim Toy, a first baseman who was part Sioux, played for the Cleveland Blues in 1887.)

Because Sockalexis had been such a memorable player—many people, in fact, apparently referred to the Spiders as the "Indians"—the baseball fans of Cleveland chose in 1915 to change the team nickname from "Naps" to "Indians" in his honor.

Sockalexis, who was born October 24, 1871, on an island in the Penobscot River, north of Bangor, Maine, was an outstanding baseball player as a teenager for a semipro team in Old Town, Maine. After high school, he entered Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, on a baseball scholarship. In 1896 and 1897, the 5'11", 185-pound Sockalexis batted

.436 and .444 for the Crusaders. (When Holy Cross created its Athletic Hall of Fame in 1956, Sockalexis was the first inductee.) Nicknamed "The Chief," Sockalexis hit with such power that he once shattered a fourth-floor dormitory window beyond the outfield fence.

During Sockalexis' second season at Holy Cross in 1897, a representative



Louis ("Chief") Sockalexis

of the Cleveland Spiders saw him play and signed him to a contract. Sockalexis hit two home runs in his first two at-bats, and went on to bat .338 with 94 hits in 66 games.

New York Giants manager John McGraw once called Sockalexis "the greatest natural talent" he'd ever seen. Unfortunately, fame and the guile of opposing pitchers—not to mention an overfondness for alcohol—apparently got the better of Sockalexis. While playing for the Spiders in 1897, he fell out of a second-story hotel window during a night of drinking. Although he played with the Spiders for two more seasons, he was never the same.

Sockalexis went on to play for several Minor League teams, then spent his remaining years working at a variety of odd jobs and teaching Native American youngsters how to play the game. On December 24, 1913, Louis Sockalexis died in Burlington, Vermont, at the age of 42. He is buried in a cemetery along the Penobscot River in Maine near his birthplace, and his grave, fittingly, is marked with a baseball and two crossed bats.

## CLEVELAND BASEBALL TIMELINE

1981

AUGUST 9: In the fourth All-Star Game played in Cleveland, an all-time record crowd of 72,086 watches the National League beat the American League, 5-4, giving the NL a 33-18-1 lead in the series.

APRIL 4: The Indians beat Seattle, 4-3, in the first game at Jacobs Field.

1994

1995

OCTOBER 17: In the sixth and deciding game of the best-of-seven American League Championship Series, the Indians beat Seattle, 4-0, to win their fourth AL pennant.

OCTOBER 28: The Indians lose to the Braves, 1-0, giving Atlanta the World Series title, four games to two.



1996

OCTOBER 5: In a 12-inning thriller at Jacobs Field, the Orioles defeat Cleveland, 4-3, in the fourth and deciding game of the best-of-five American League Division Series.



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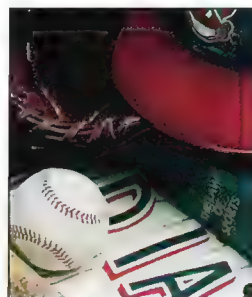
The Firm's association with the Indians, as well as the American League, goes back a long way—all the way to the 1920s, in fact! That's when our Founding Partners, Newton D. Baker and Joseph C. Hostetler, purchased an interest in what was then called the Cleveland Baseball Company. In 1928, the Firm was asked to rewrite the American League Constitution—and the rest, as they say, is history.

Our connection with the *Great American Pastime* remains strong today, as we continue to work with The American League and The Cleveland Indians. We salute the League, the 1997 Baseball All-Stars, the Cleveland Indians, and Jacobs Field—a true All-Star line-up.

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Newton D. Baker



Joseph C. Hostetler

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Facing the imminent  
demise of a once-  
proud metropolis,  
Clevelanders  
worked together to  
transform their city  
into a showcase of  
urban revitalization.

By Mark Gottlieb

# CITIES

*A Tale of Two*





In December 1978, Cleveland became the first major American city since the Depression to default on its municipal debt. The stark financial reality of that default, coupled with the usual assortment of urban problems that appeared to hold just about every "Rust Belt" city in America hostage at the time, seemed to signal to many people that the town's illness was fatal, that no amount of heroic effort could forestall the inevitable.

Yet less than two decades later, the city that was once given up for dead by outsiders and even many residents is not just alive, but healthier than ever and kicking up its heels. In fact, the Cleveland that welcomes visitors to Major League Baseball's 68th annual

All-Star Game has become a model of civic revitalization that is now emulated around the world.

Cleveland's comeback has been studied by urban analysts from around the country and hailed by journalists from all corners of the globe. The

National Civic League has bestowed an unprecedented five All-America City Awards on Cleveland, honoring the town for its ability to solve its problems through collaborative, citizen-based initiatives. In 1996, Cleveland also became the first American city to be used as the subject of a Harvard Business School case. And even more remarkable, *Travel & Leisure* magazine now ranks Cleveland among its 10 hottest international tourist destinations for 1997.

After suffering through the 1960s and '70s, Cleveland managed to revive, rebuild and reinvent itself in little more than a decade and a half. Much of the city's renaissance is the product of collaborative efforts between local government and private business interests, efforts that to date have invested more than \$9 billion in development projects throughout the area. City, county and state governments have worked with private investors to transform the face of the city and, in the process, instill a sense of civic pride that residents of Cleveland had not felt in many years.

Few communities have come as far and as fast as Cleveland. And evidence of the city's remarkable turnaround is visible all over town.

BROWN/PANORAMIC IMAGES



Cleveland's renaissance is most obvious in the city's downtown area, beginning with the exciting Gateway District and its star attraction, Jacobs Field. Known familiarly as "The Jake," the home of the Cleveland Indians is a fan-friendly facility designed to bring the action on the field close to every ticketholder.

The ballpark has received rave reviews from players, sportswriters and fans around the country. At home, the Indians are one of the region's biggest draws—so big, in fact, that they became the first team in Major League Baseball history to sell every ticket for every seat of every home game some four months before opening day of the 1996 season. This year, they did it again.

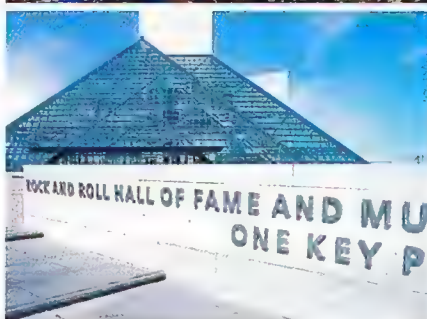
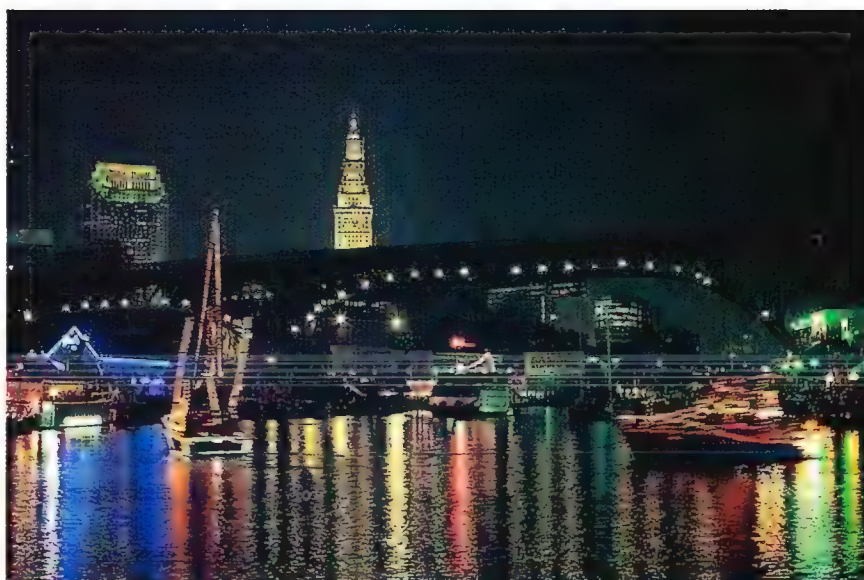
Just a few steps from Jacobs Field is Gund Arena, home to the National Basketball Association's Cleveland Cavaliers and the site of this year's NBA All-Star Game. The arena also serves as the home ice for the International Hockey League's Cleveland Lumberjacks, and this summer it welcomes yet another tenant: the Cleveland Rockers, the local franchise of the new Women's National Basketball Association.

Together, the two sports facilities have anchored the revival of a once moribund district, spurring the development of a host of restaurants and watering holes that cater to game-day throngs and business-lunch crowds.

Just a few blocks north and east of Gateway is the Playhouse Square Center, one of Cleveland's most impressive historic-renovation projects. The Ohio, State, and Palace theaters—former vaudeville and movie palaces arrayed along one block of Euclid Avenue—were saved from the wrecker's ball and restored to their former grandeur over a 10-year period. The result: three magnificent venues for local and touring dance, theater and music performances. And when a \$15-million renovation of a fourth theater—the Allen—is completed in 1998, Playhouse Square's 9,500 seats will constitute the nation's second-largest performing arts complex.

On the shores of Lake Erie, the once woefully underused downtown lakefront has been transformed into the attraction-studded North Coast Harbor.

**Right: The Flats.  
Bottom Left: The  
Rock and Roll  
Hall of Fame.  
Bottom Right:  
The Great Lakes  
Science Center.**



First stop for many visitors to the Harbor is the distinctive glass pyramid of the new Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum.

In its first year of operation, the Rock Hall welcomed more than one million guests from around the world. The crowds came to peruse a remarkable collection of memorabilia chronicling the history of America's favorite music, from the guitars of rock legends to entire concert stage sets. Six floors of regularly changing exhibits, video installations, theater spaces, archival materials and multimedia computer stations offer a dazzling spectacle of rock's highlights and history.

Right next door to the Rock Hall is another of Cleveland's newest and most popular attractions: the Great Lakes Science Center. Opened in July 1996, the Science Center's 50,000 square feet of interactive and hands-on displays immediately proved a hit with visitors, as attendance rose to a level some 50 percent above projections.

Among the most popular features of the Science Center is the Cleveland Clinic Foundation OMNIMAX theater, in which large-format IMAX films surround the viewer in a total visual and sound experience. The Science Center

also features a wide range of educational exhibits illuminating numerous aspects of scientific inquiry—many focused on the ecology of the Great Lakes—along with live demonstrations of science phenomena, public access to computer terminals, regularly scheduled educational programs and two restaurants with spectacular lake views. Fittingly, the new center will host the annual convention of the Association of Science and Technology Centers in the year 2000.

Working lake boats, as well as pleasure craft by the hundreds, can be viewed from North Coast Harbor's Voinovich Bicentennial Park, named for former Cleveland mayor (and now Ohio Governor) George V. Voinovich, who played a key role in starting the city's revival in the 1980s. The open greenspace of the park offers visitors an opportunity to relax between attractions and take in unobstructed views of the lake and the mouth of the Cuyahoga River.

The lakefront and its attractions are connected to Public Square, downtown's transportation nexus, by the Regional Transit Authority's new Waterfront Line, a light-rail rapid transit spur that in itself is a popular attraction for residents and visitors alike. The Waterfront Line reaches the lakefront along a





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route that takes it through one of the city's most vibrant areas: The Flats.

A formerly desolate stretch of warehouses along the east and west banks of the Cuyahoga, The Flats has been transformed into a thriving entertainment district. Just down a bluff from the center of the city lie dozens of restaurants, nightclubs, shops and performance venues, along with dock space for the pleasure craft that now regularly ply the waters of the river and the lake. The Flats is also the place to hop on one of the excursion boats that offer great views of the downtown skyline and no end of spectacular sunsets.

Fittingly, it was in The Flats that the main events of the city's 1996 Bicentennial celebrations were held. On one weekend in July more than a million

Clevelanders and out-of-town visitors crowded the river's edge to enjoy the festivities marking the city's 200th birthday.

Of course, the very fact that there *are* visitors is a new wrinkle that Clevelanders have had to get used to. Once shunned as a mere stopover, Cleveland is now a bona fide tourist draw. In 1996, for example, Greater Cleveland welcomed 7 million visitors, realizing \$4 billion in tourism-generated spending and seeing some 95,000 jobs sustained by the tourism industry.

Hotels, once scarce, are now found throughout downtown, beginning with the Ritz-Carlton and the appropriately named Renaissance Cleveland, both at the historic Tower City complex on Public Square. A short

**Left: The new heart and soul of Cleveland baseball can be found at Jacobs Field.**

walk from Public Square are the Marriott at Key Center, the Sheraton City Centre and the Holiday Inn Lakeside. Elsewhere downtown are the Em-

bassy Suites and the Wyndham at Playhouse Square, and five additional facilities are either under construction or planned, including one scheduled to open in the Gateway district in 1998.

But the downtown building boom isn't confined to attractions and hotels. Long known as an industrial powerhouse (Cleveland is home to the headquarters of 14 Fortune 500 companies), the city is now seeing rapid growth in the service sector of its economy. In addition to the tourism-related businesses that have emerged in the past few years, Cleveland also now boasts growing health care, banking and legal industries. The expansion of the service sector helps explain the city's changing skyline, which features a number of new multi-story office buildings, including the 941-foot Key Tower, the tallest building between New York and Chicago.

Downtown's new infrastructure is only one manifestation of Cleveland's comeback. Former suburbanites, for example, are moving back into the city to live in new houses in neighborhoods all over town, and apartments carved out of refurbished industrial buildings are attracting tenants to the Warehouse District. And such new shopping centers as the Shoppes at Church Square, the glass-enclosed Galleria and Tower City Center are bringing shoppers into the city for the first time in years.

**Cleveland's new spirit was on display in last year's bicentennial celebration.**

**C**learly, Cleveland's revival consists of more than the new structures and attractions that now grace the city. In truth, it springs from a revival of spirit, a renewed belief in the capabilities of a strong and vibrant community. The Bicentennial celebrations of 1996 commemorated the passage of 200 years of history, but they also marked the beginning of Cleveland's third century. And judging by the city's recent achievements, the next hundred years should be a heady time, indeed. ★

*Mark Gottlieb works as a freelance writer in Cleveland.*







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# MY STORY

by Larry Doby

**How this former Cleveland Indian helped Jackie Robinson break the color barrier.** *WITH MICHAEL ARKUSH*

I'll never forget the moment that my life changed forever. I was lying in my bunk somewhere in the South Pacific. It was the late afternoon and I was listening to the Armed Forces Radio, enjoying a rare break from my rigorous Navy routine. And then the news came.

No, the Japanese had not surrendered. No, the war wasn't over. We weren't that lucky.

This news had to do with a different kind of war. The war between races. This news was about Jackie Robinson and a new country. It was announced that Branch Rickey, the owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers, had signed Jackie to a Minor League contract.

I was stunned. The impossible had actually happened. All my life, I had been in love with the game of baseball, and had excelled in it at many levels. Yet I also had been acutely aware of what I could not do in the game. That's because, of course, I was born with the wrong color. So I never allowed myself to dream of playing in the Major Leagues. How could I? It was not the place for a black man. That's just the way it was and the way it seemed it would always be in this country. Until, of course, I heard that news on the radio.

I stayed in the Navy for another year, which I was happy to do, and was discharged in early 1946. After playing winter ball in Puerto Rico, I returned to my former Negro League team, the Newark Eagles, where I had first played in 1942. Nobody from the Majors contacted me, and I wasn't surprised. I was smart enough to know that revolutions in America didn't happen overnight.

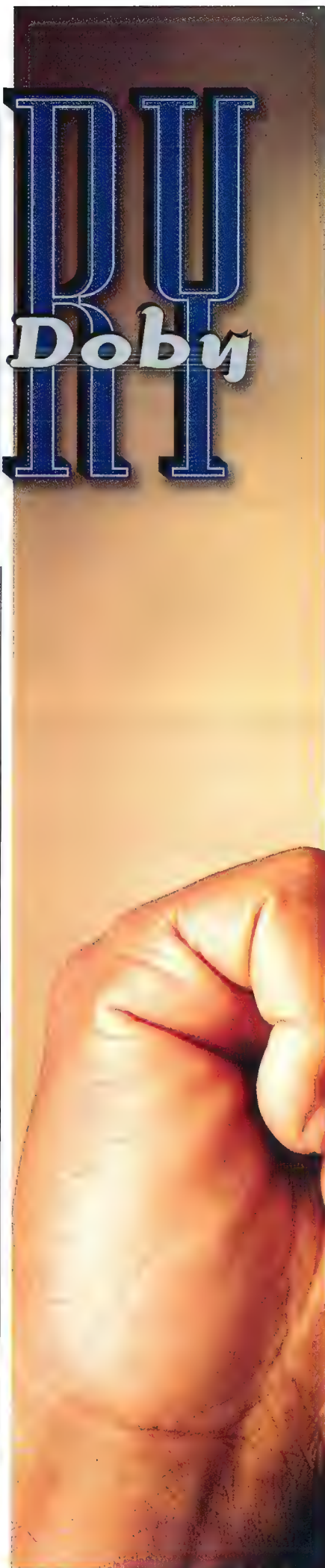
Besides, I loved playing in Newark. We

were such a close group, doing everything together. Of course, we had no choice in those days. There weren't many places on the road where we were allowed to eat or sleep. I was also making very good money, \$700 a month. It sure beat what I would have made as a high school coach, which is where I had always figured I'd wind up.

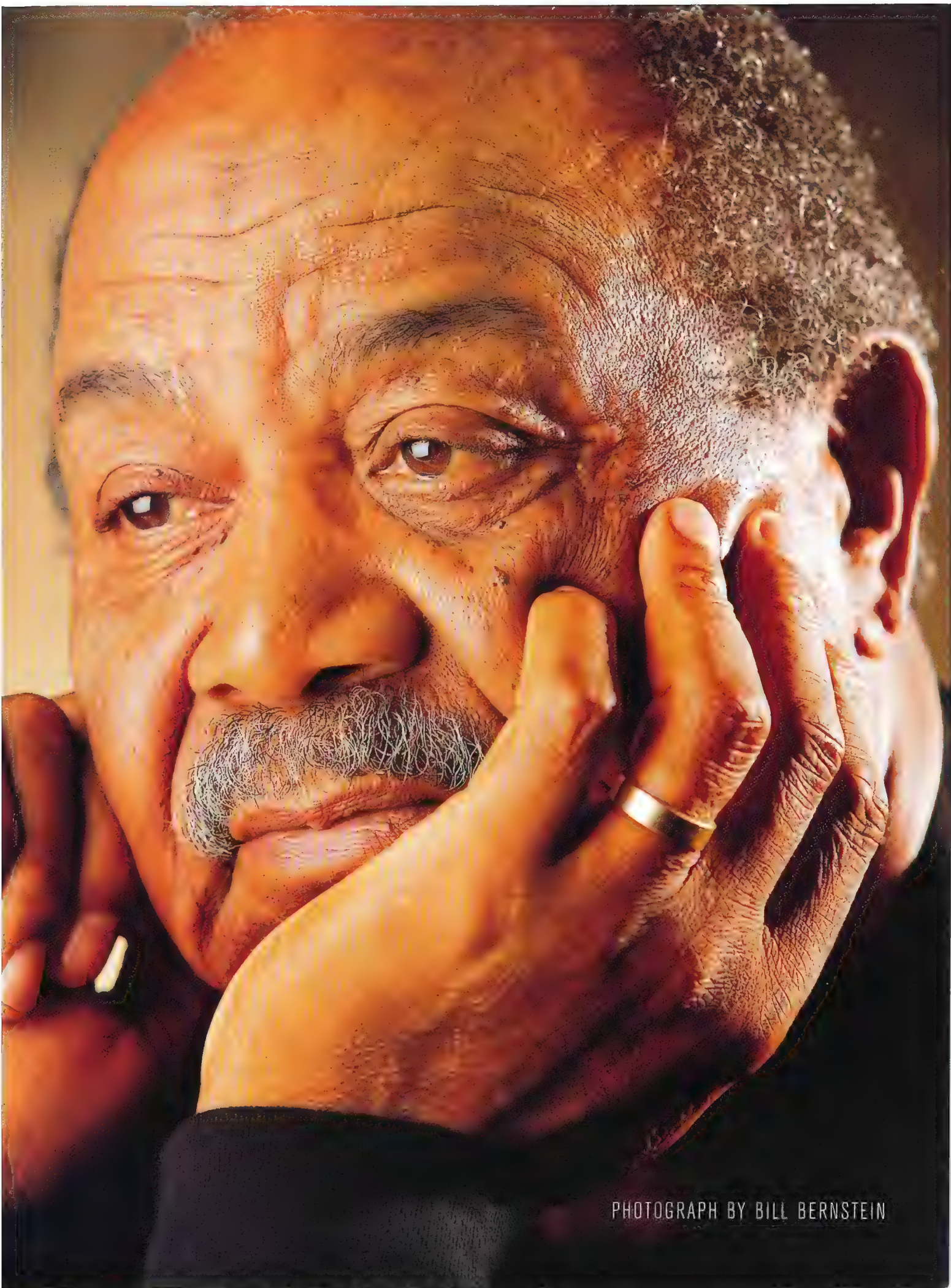
Then one day in Trenton, a fellow by the name of Lou Jones came to see me. Jones, who was also black, worked as the public relations man for Bill Veeck, the owner of the Cleveland Indians. "Do you think you can play Major League baseball?" Jones asked me.

"Yeah, I can play baseball," I responded. To me, baseball was baseball, whether it was played on the sandlot or in a stadium. I knew I had the ability. It was the opportunity that I wasn't so sure about. "Well, Veeck is very interested, and I'll come back to talk to you again in a couple of weeks."

Which he did. He took me to see the







PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL BERNSTEIN



Indians play the Yankees. Things were happening so fast. A few weeks later, he came back again. This time, when he left, I followed.

I played the first game of a doubleheader for the Eagles, then boarded a midnight train to Chicago, where the Indians were visiting the White Sox. My teammates gave me a kit with a comb, a brush, and some shaving cream. My new life was about to start, and I couldn't wait.

I arrived in the Windy City and met the man who, over the years, would become the father I lost when I was a kid, the man who helped get me through some of the worst abuses anyone should ever have to endure. I'm talking about Mr. Veeck, of course, although he wouldn't let me call him that. I called him Bill, and he called me Lawrence, and

After his July 1947 debut, Doby played sparingly for the rest of the year. Here he pinch hits against the H's.



Newark Eagles teammates Larry Doby (right) and Monty Irwin mug for the camera in 1946

together, we helped change baseball.

It wouldn't be easy, though, which he made clear right from the beginning. He told me that fans would try to make life miserable for me. He was right. He told me that some teammates would never accept me. He was right. And he told me that Major Leagues or not, I'd still be spending most of my time away from the ballpark in the same old segregated society. Right again.

But something else he said during our first meeting meant the most to me:

extremely careful about how I reacted to ridicule. I was more than just a man. Like Jackie, I was an experiment, a guinea pig on the American stage. If I ever lost my composure when an opponent spit at me or a fan called me "nigger"—and those things happened constantly—it would reflect negatively on all black ballplayers. Whether we were justified or not, it would prove to many people that we couldn't handle the stress of Major League Baseball, that Rickey and Veeck had been misguided

"In order for us to be successful, Lawrence, we will have to bite the bullet a lot of times. We are in this together. If you fail, I fail." It made me realize that no matter how tough things got, I was not alone. With his support, I'd survive anything.

I also knew he was right about the fact that I had to be



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Mont Tupper Photography, 1995

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Left: Teammate Steve Gromek hugs Doby after Doby's winning home run in Game 4 of the 1948 World Series. Below: Doby discusses his 1949 contract with Lou Boudreau (left) and Bill Veeck.

opportunists instead of the true pioneers they really were. So many people were threatened by our participation that they were looking for any deviation in my behavior to kick me out. I simply wasn't going to accommodate them.

I think that's one reason Veeck picked me. Like Jackie, I came out of the service, and I had a very clean background. This thing was too important to mess up by picking the wrong person. And you can bet that there were many times when I wanted to fight back, whether it was against an opponent spitting at me or a teammate slighting me. But I didn't.

Take the first day that I met the rest of the team in the clubhouse at Comiskey Park. Our manager, Lou Boudreau, escorted me down the aisle, introducing me to players at their lockers. I couldn't believe what happened next. There were six players who wouldn't even shake my hand. They just looked off in another direction, as if I wasn't even there. A few others shook my hand, but also looked away. Boudreau did nothing. What could he do? This was an enemy he couldn't defeat. This was ignorance.



Doby, who scored 968 runs in 13 Major League seasons, gets one last by sliding home safely against Washington in May 1948.

I was deeply hurt. In high school, college, the Navy, everywhere I had been, in a segregated environment or not, I had never been treated like this. Did they reject me because my skin was dark? Were they afraid that if they touched me it might rub off? I don't know. I never bothered to ask.

Then, shortly before the game, I stood on the field waiting to warm up with somebody. A minute went by,

then two, then five. It seemed like forever. Yet nobody asked if I wanted to play catch. It was humiliating. And after what had just happened in the clubhouse, I didn't exactly feel right about asking anyone myself. Finally, Joe Gordon said, 'Okay, kid, let's warm up,' and we did. For the rest of the year, I warmed up with Joe Gordon.

That afternoon, I got my first Major League at-bat. It wasn't exactly memorable—I struck out. But I guess what mattered more than what I did at the plate was that I was at the plate at all. History was being made for the second time in 11 weeks. First Jackie. Then me. It was about time.

I got a base hit and knocked in a run in the second game of the double-header. I didn't play a full game for the rest of the season, but that winter, I read Tommy Heinrich's book, *How to Play the Outfield*, and by 1948, I was a full-time

outfielder. The Indians won the World Series that year, and I was fortunate enough to play a vital role.

My home run against Johnny Sain, in fact, won Game 4. It was the first homer by an African-American in World Series history. But for me, what was more important was the

hug I received after the game from my teammate, pitcher Steve Gromek. Somebody took a picture of it, and it appeared the next day in newspapers everywhere. It demonstrated that a white American and an African-American could embrace each other. This was 1948, and this kind of thing just didn't happen.

But after that game, just like after every other game, I couldn't celebrate with the team. I couldn't replay the



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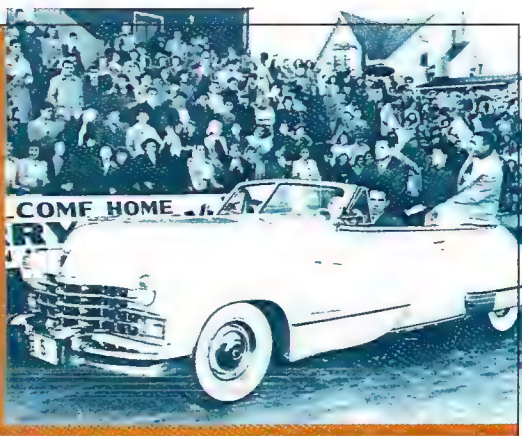
game with them, going over every moment as if it were happening for the first time. That, without question, was the hardest part of all my years in baseball. I was part of the team on the field, but not off it. I'd sit by myself in a hotel room while my teammates were off drinking beers.

The loneliness was almost unbearable.

Fortunately, I had Mr. Veeck, who had a special feeling for the underdog. He knew when I was hurting. If he was in town, he'd take me to hear jazz. If he wasn't, he'd give me a few words of encouragement. That's why I never had to take my problems home to my wife, Helyn. We were raising five kids, and the last thing she needed to hear was me complaining. Besides, she was aware of what I was going through.

As the years went on, things did get better. The Indians got rid of the players who wouldn't shake my hand, and they

Doby pays a visit to his high school in Paterson, New Jersey, in 1948. With him are his wife, Helyn, and the mayor of Paterson.



eventually signed a few more African-Americans, including Satchel Paige. That meant that I had people I could hang out with. I think playing in Cleveland always made a big difference. This, after all, was a city that had grasped the importance of diversity. This was where the great Jesse Owens came from. But I still had to watch my behavior at the ballpark—we were still in the early stages of this grand experiment.

I finally retired in 1959. I played my last year with the White Sox, reunited with Mr. Veeck. And 20 years later, he gave me another chance. This time, it

was as the manager, and although I was eventually fired, it was another reason I will be eternally grateful to him.

Over the years, some of the players who treated me so disrespectfully when I first started have tried to make up with me. They want me to be their friends, but I can't. I can forgive what they did, even if I don't think that I'll ever really comprehend it. But I will never forget. I simply want

nothing to do with them. For 50 years, I have never named names, and I'm not going to start now. Their names aren't important. They know who they are.

But I'm a guy who doesn't like to dwell on the negative. I prefer to focus on the positive, especially as we honor Jackie and myself this year. I prefer to remember all the glorious days I had on the field, and, most of all, the opportunity I had to make the game—and the country—a better place. ★

*Michael Arkush is a freelance writer based in Milford, Connecticut.*

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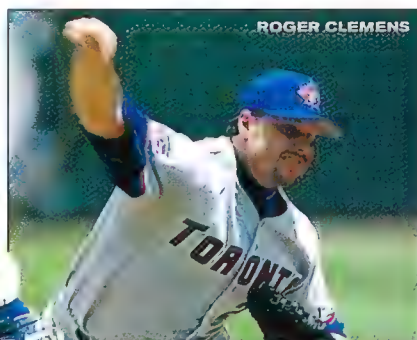




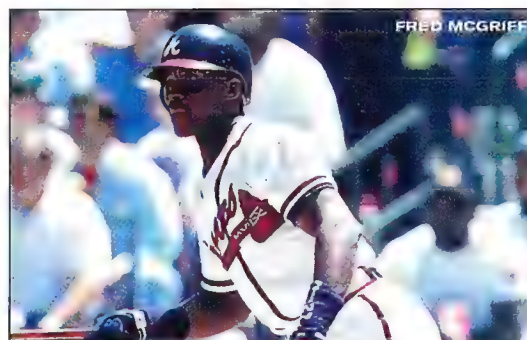
LEE SMITH

# 1997 milestones

The following are milestones that may be, or already have been, reached during the 1997 season



ROGER CLEMENS



FRED MCGRIFF

## GAMES PLAYED

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Eddie Murray	3,000	*3,012
Paul Molitor	2,500	2,470
Cal Ripken, Jr	2,500	2,445

## AT-BATS

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Paul Molitor	10,000	9,985

## RUNS

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Tim Lincecum	1,500	1,448

## HITS

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Harold Baines	2,500	2,481
Rickey Henderson	2,500	2,477

## HOME RUNS

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Mark McGwire	350	*353
Barry Bonds	350	346
Jose Canseco	350	341
Harold Baines	350	329
Fred McGriff	350	326

## RUNS BATTED IN

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Eddie Murray	2,000	1,913
Cal Ripken, Jr.	1,400	*1,413
Harold Baines	1,400	1,385
Joe Carter	1,400	1,315

## STOLEN BASES

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Rickey Henderson	1,200	1,192
Tim Lincecum	800	794

## STRIKEOUTS

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Roger Clemens	2,750	2,683
Mark Langston	2,500	2,365

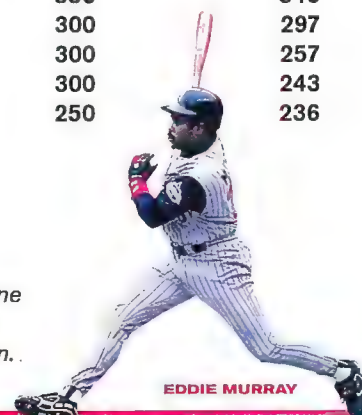
## GAMES PITCHED

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Dennis Eckersley	1,000	984
Jesse Orosco	1,000	911
Rick Honeycutt	800	797
John Franco	750	737

## SAVES

PLAYER	MILESTONE	CURRENT TOTAL (AS OF JUNE 16)
Lee Smith	500	478
Dennis Eckersley	400	368
John Franco	350	340
Randy Myers	300	297
Doug Jones	300	257
Jeff Montgomery	300	243
Todd Worrell	250	236

An \* denotes a milestone that has been reached during the 1997 season.



EDDIE MURRAY

MLB PHOTOS: GREENE (SMITH); MANGIN (CLEMENS); KEE (MCGRIFF); REID (MURRAY)





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# 1997 anniversaries

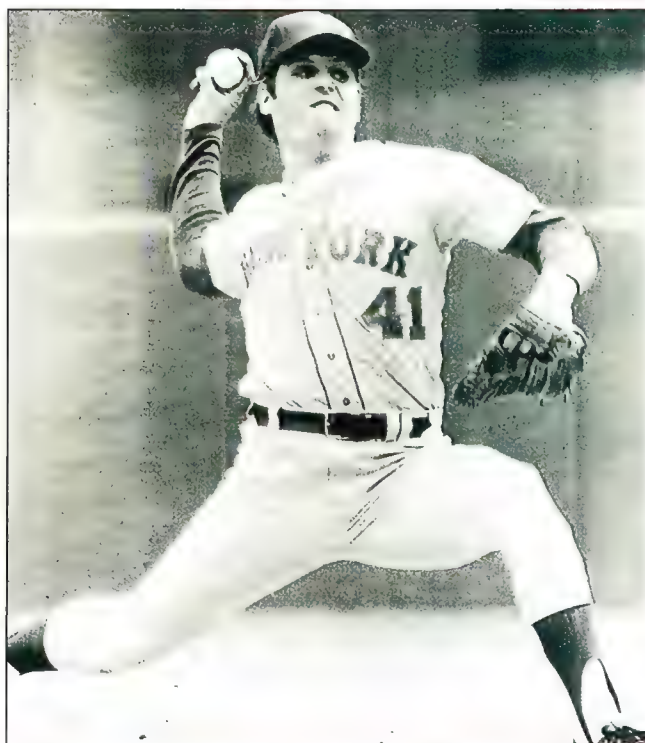
*Everyone knows that 1997 marks the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking Major League Baseball's color barrier, but did you know about these other baseball anniversaries?*



CAP ANSON



BILL BEVENS



TOM SEAVER

## 100 YEARS AGO

**May 11, 1897** Catcher Charles "Duke" Farrell of Washington sets a Major League record by gunning down eight of the 10 Baltimore Orioles that attempted to steal second.

**June 29, 1897** The Chicago White Stockings set a Major League record that still stands as they trounce Louisville, 36-7. Cap Anson's squad scores in every inning and pounds out 32 hits.

**October 3, 1897** Cap Anson hits two home runs against St. Louis in the final game of his storied 27-year career. At 46, he becomes the oldest player to hit a homer in the Majors.

## 75 YEARS AGO

**April 30, 1922** Charlie Robertson of the White Sox throws a perfect game against the Tigers. The 2-0 blanking will be the only perfect game in the Majors until Don Larsen's in the 1956 World Series.

**July 23, 1922** Ray Grimes of Chicago drives in a run in his 17th-consecutive game, a record that still stands today. During his streak, Grimes drives in 27 runs.

**August 25, 1922** The Cubs defeat the Phillies, 26-23, in one of the wildest games ever played. In the fourth inning, the Cubs lead 25-6, but barely hang on as the game ends with the bases full of Phillies.

## 50 YEARS AGO

**April 15, 1947** Jackie Robinson becomes the first African-American to play in the Major Leagues and is later named the first-ever Rookie of the Year.

**July 5, 1947** Larry Doby breaks the color barrier in the American League as a pinch hitter in Cleveland's 6-5 loss to the White Sox.

**October 3, 1947** Bill Bevens of the Yankees has a no-hitter broken up with two on and two out in the bottom of the ninth inning in Game 4 of the World Series by Cookie Lavagetto's pinch-hit double. The Yanks lose the game, 3-2.

## 25 YEARS AGO

**February 21, 1972** Tom Seaver of the New York Mets becomes the highest paid pitcher in history when he inks a deal worth \$172,500 per year.

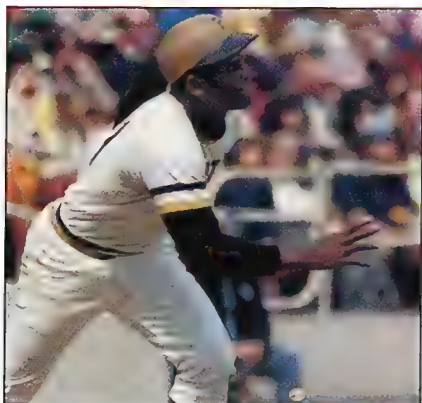
**July 14, 1972** Tom Haller catches for Detroit, while his brother Bill is the umpire behind the plate—a Major League first.

**September 30, 1972** Roberto Clemente of the Pirates hits a double to register his 3,000th career hit in the fourth inning against the Mets. It would be the final hit of his career, as he's killed in a plane crash during a relief mission to Nicaraguan earthquake victims on December 31.

NATIONAL BASEBALL LIBRARY (ANSON, BEVENS); UPI/CORBIS-BETTMAN (SEAVER); MLB PHOTOS: TOMSIC (CLEMENTE), PILLING (MOUTOR, MATTINGLY, RYAN), BECK (HENDERSON)



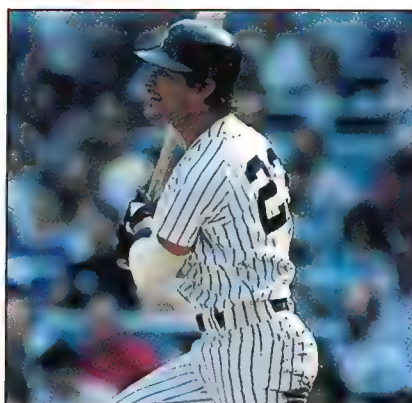
ROBERTO CLEMENTE



PAUL MOLITOR



DON MATTINGLY



## 10 YEARS AGO

**April 18, 1987** Mike Schmidt of the Philadelphia Phillies hits his 500th career home run, a dramatic three-run shot in the ninth inning of an 8-6 Phillies victory over the Pirates at Three Rivers Stadium.

**July 18, 1987** New York Yankees first baseman Don Mattingly ties Dale Long's Major League record with a home run in eight consecutive games.

**August 26, 1987** Paul Molitor has his 39-game hitting streak snapped by Indians rookie John Farrell. It is the seventh-longest hitting streak in Major League history.

**October 3, 1987** Rookie Mark McGwire of the Oakland Athletics smashes the rookie record for home runs in a season with 49, which also leads the American League.

## 5 YEARS AGO

**May 1, 1992** Rickey Henderson extends his Major League record for career stolen bases as he reaches the 1,000 plateau.

**July 26, 1992** Nolan Ryan of the Rangers strikes out his 100th batter of the season and has now reached 100 Ks in 23 straight seasons.

**September 9, 1992** Robin Yount registers his 3,000th career hit against Cleveland, becoming only the 17th player to reach that mark.

**September 20, 1992** Mickey Morandini becomes the first player to record an unassisted triple play in the National League since 1927.



NOLAN RYAN



RICKEY HENDERSON

*\*Special thanks to Matt Gould of the Major League Baseball Public Relations Department for providing this list.*





*A complete history of the All-Star Game.*



**1933**

**July 6**

Comiskey  
Park  
Chicago (AL)

AL: 4 NL: 2

"The Game of the Century" premiered with Babe Ruth driving a Bill Hallahan fastball just inside the right-field foul pole for a two-run homer in the third inning. Frankie Frisch matched Ruth with a sixth-inning homer for the National League.

**LINE SCORE**

NL	000	002	000	2	8	0
AL	012	001	00X	4	9	1

**1936**

**July 7**

Braves  
Field  
Boston (NL)

NL: 4 AL: 3

The National League beat the American League for the first time, 4-3, scoring twice in the second and twice more in the fifth while Dizzy Dean and Carl Hubbell held their rivals scoreless through six.

**LINE SCORE**

AL	000	000	300	3	7	1
NL	020	020	00X	4	9	0

**1934**

**July 10**

Polo  
Grounds  
New York (NL)

AL: 9 NL: 7

National League starting pitcher Carl Hubbell fanned Ruth, Gehrig, Foxx, Simmons and Cronin in succession as the National League jumped to a 4-0 lead after three innings. But the American League rallied for two in the fourth and six more in the fifth for a 9-7 win.

**LINE SCORE**

AL	000	261	000	9	14	1
NL	103	030	000	7	8	1

**1937**

**July 7**

Griffith  
Stadium  
Washington (AL)

AL: 8 NL: 3

President Franklin Roosevelt threw out the first ball and Lefty Gomez, starting for the American League for the fourth time in five All-Star Games, threw out the second. The National League's Joe Medwick collected two singles and two doubles in a losing cause as the American League coasted to an 8-3 win.

**LINE SCORE**

NL	000	111	000	3	13	0
AL	002	312	00X	8	13	2

**1935**

**July 8**

Municipal  
Stadium  
Cleveland (AL)

AL: 4 NL: 1

Jimmie Foxx supplied the power with a two-run homer and a run-producing single and Lefty Gomez provided the pitching prowess with six innings of three-hit pitching as the American League beat the National League for the third straight time, 4-1.

**LINE SCORE**

NL	000	100	000	1	4	1
AL	210	010	00X	4	8	0

**1938**

**July 6**

Crosley  
Field  
Cincinnati (NL)

NL: 4 AL: 1

Rookie Johnny Vander Meer, coming off his two no-hitters only a month before, threw three scoreless innings as the National League combined the pitching of Vander Meer, Bill Lee and Mace Brown with an all-around attack to beat the American League, 4-1.

**LINE SCORE**

AL	000	000	010	1	7	4
NL	100	100	20X	4	8	0

MLB PHOTOS: PHOTO FILE (WILLIAMS); PILLING (MADDUX); NBLA (FELLER); ROSATO (RIPKEN, JR.)







# 1939

July 11

Yankee Stadium  
New York (AL)  
AL: 3 NL: 1

Joe McCarthy used six of his Yankees in the starting line-up and saw them deliver four of the Junior Circuit's six hits—including a home run by Joe DiMaggio. Bob Feller entered the game in the sixth inning with the bases loaded and one out and forced National League shortstop Arky Vaughan to hit into an inning-ending double play.

## LINE SCORE

NL	001	000	000	1	7	1
AL	000	210	00X	3	6	1

# 1942

July 6

Polo Grounds  
New York (NL)  
AL: 3 NL: 1

The first wartime game was a twilight affair that started at 7:22 p.m. after a blackout test Lou Boudreau, leading off the game, hit Mort Cooper's second pitch into the upper left-field stands for a home run. Rudy York tagged one into the short right-field stands for a two-run homer, giving the American League a three-run lead.

## LINE SCORE

AL	300	000	000	3	7	0
NL	000	000	010	1	6	1

# 1940

July 9

Sportsman's Park  
St. Louis (NL)  
NL: 4 AL: 0

Boston's Max West gave the National League a three-run bulge in the first inning with a three-run homer, and the National League went on to win 4-0. National League manager Bill McKechnie used fresh pitchers every two innings to hold the mighty American League bats to three scattered hits.

## LINE SCORE

AL	000	000	000	0	3	1
NL	300	000	01X	4	7	0

# 1943

July 13

Shibe Park  
Philadelphia (AL)  
AL: 5 NL: 3

Bobby Doerr's three-run homer in the second inning propelled the American League to a 5-3 victory over the National League. Led by Vince DiMaggio's three hits, the National League out-hit the American League 10-8, but could only manage single runs in the first, seventh and ninth as it went down for its eighth loss in 11 games.

## LINE SCORE

NL	100	000	101	3	10	3
AL	031	010	00X	5	8	1

# 1941

July 8

Briggs Stadium  
Detroit (AL)  
AL: 7 NL: 5

A dramatic two-out, three-run homer by Ted Williams carried the American League to a 7-5 win. Until Williams' drive into the upper rightfield stands, the batting hero had been the National League's Arky Vaughan, who had a single and a pair of two-run homers.

## LINE SCORE

NL	000	001	220	5	10	2
AL	000	101	014	7	11	3

# 1944

July 11

Forbes Field  
Pittsburgh (NL)  
NL: 7 AL: 1

The National League, led by the Chicago Cubs' Bill "Swish" Nicholson, who ignited a four-run rally in the fifth with a pinch-hit double, beat the American League, 7-1. Cub Phil Cavarretta reached base safely a record five times on a triple, single and three walks.

## LINE SCORE

AL	010	000	000	1	6	3
NL	000	040	21X	7	12	1

MLB PHOTOS: PHOTO FILE (ROBINSON); NELA (RUTH); VESELY (VALENZUELA); TREMMEL (JACKSON); PHOTO FILE (MUSIAL)



# 1946

## July 9

Fenway  
Park  
Boston (AL)

AL: 12 NL: 0

After a year's interruption due to wartime travel restrictions, the American League crushed the National League in the most one-sided contest in All-Star history, 12-0. Three American League pitchers—Bob Feller, Hal Newhouser and Jack Kramer—combined to hold the National League to three singles.

### LINE SCORE

NL	000	000	000	0	3	0
AL	200	130	24X	12	14	1



# 1947

## July 8

Wrigley  
Field  
Chicago (NL)

AL: 2 NL: 1

The National League held a 1-0 lead through five innings, courtesy of a home run by New York Giant Johnny Mize off Frank "Spec" Shea. But Shea wound up the winning pitcher when the American League scored once in the sixth and again in the seventh, on Bobby Doerr and Stan Spence singles, to give the American League a 2-1 win.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	001	100	2	8	0
NL	000	100	000	1	5	1

# 1951

## July 10

Briggs  
Stadium  
Detroit (AL)

NL: 8 AL: 3

The National League, for the first time in All-Star Game history, won two consecutive games, beating the American League in a battle of homers, 8-3. The Senior Circuit hit a record four homers, as Stan Musial, Bob Elliott, Ralph Kiner and Gil Hodges homered across six of the National League's eight runs.

### LINE SCORE

NL	100	302	110	8	12	1
AL	010	110	000	3	10	2

# 1948

## July 13

Sportsman's  
Park  
St. Louis (AL)

AL: 5 NL: 2

The American League, crippled by injuries to four of its top stars—Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams, George Kell and Hal Newhouser—still managed to overcome a 2-0 deficit and win for the 11th time in 15 All-Star Games. The National League jumped on starter Walt Masterson for two runs in the top of the first.

### LINE SCORE

NL	200	000	000	2	8	0
AL	011	300	00X	5	6	0

# 1952

## July 8

Shibe  
Park  
Philadelphia (NL)

NL: 3 AL: 2

In the only shortened All-Star Game in history, the National League beat the American League 3-2 on home runs by Jackie Robinson and Hank Bauer. Before the game was called off by rain at the end of the fifth inning, A's lefthander Bobby Shantz struck out the side.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	20	RAIN	2	5	0
NL	100	20	RAIN	3	3	0

# 1949

## July 12

Ebbets  
Field  
Brooklyn (NL)

AL: 11 NL: 7

In a seesaw battle that saw 42 performers, 25 hits, 18 runs and six errors—five by the National League—the American League won a slugfest, 11-7, for its 12th victory in 16 games. Jackie Robinson became the first African-American to start an All-Star Game, opening at second for the National League.

### LINE SCORE

AL	400	202	300	11	13	1
NL	212	002	000	7	12	5

# 1953

## July 14

Crosley  
Field  
Cincinnati (NL)

NL: 5 AL: 1

The National League combined a 10-hit attack with effective pitching to win its fourth straight All-Star Game, 5-1. The offensive hero was St. Louis Cardinal Enos Slaughter, who had two hits, one walk, scored twice, drove in one run, and made the outstanding fielding play of the afternoon, a diving catch of Harvey Kuenn's line drive.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	000	001	1	5	0
NL	000	020	12X	5	10	0

# 1950

## July 11

Comiskey  
Park  
Chicago (AL)

NL: 4 AL: 3

In the first extra-inning game in All-Star history, the National League won a thriller, 4-3, when Red Schoendienst hit a solo homer off Detroit's Ted Gray in the 14th. Boston's Ted Williams fractured his left elbow when he collided with the left-field wall while robbing Ralph Kiner of an extra-base hit in the first inning.

### LINE SCORE

NL	020	000	001	000	01	4	10	3
AL	001	020	000	000	00	3	8	1

# 1954

## July 13

Municipal  
Stadium  
Cleveland (AL)

AL: 11 NL: 9

The American League belted a record 17 hits to beat the National League 11-9 in the highest scoring game in All-Star history. Despite two home runs by an injured Al Rosen and solo shots by Larry Doby and Ray Boone, the biggest hit was a bloop single by Nellie Fox in the eighth that gave the American League its margin of victory.

### LINE SCORE

NL	000	520	020	9	14	0
AL	004	121	03X	11	17	1



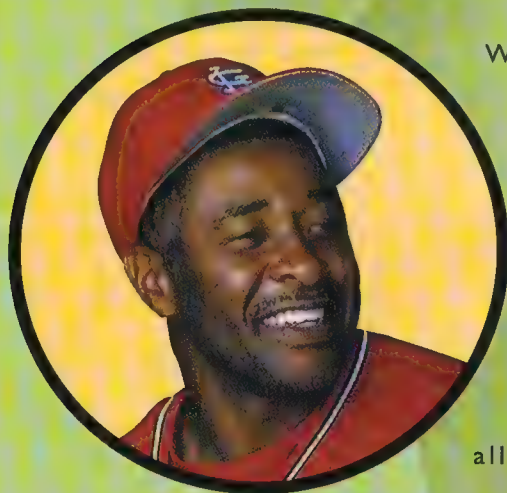
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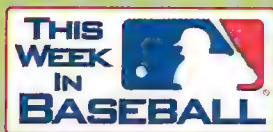


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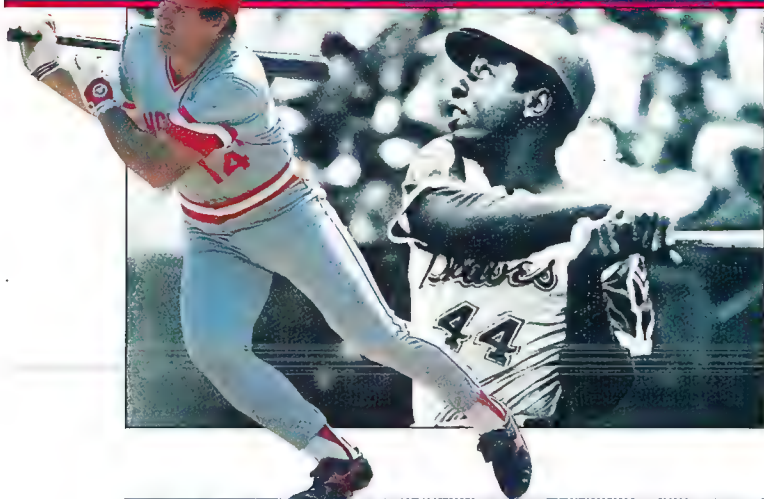


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# 1955

## July 12

County Stadium  
Milwaukee (NL)  
AL: 6 NL: 5

After three hours and 17 minutes, 20 strikeouts and 23 hits, a solo home run by Stan Musial on the first pitch of the 12th inning decided the 22nd annual Midsummer Classic. Milwaukee's Gene Conley, who struck out the side in the 12th, was the winning pitcher, with Boston's Frank Sullivan the loser.

### LINE SCORE

AL	400	001	000	000	5	10	2
NL	000	000	230	001	6	13	1

# 1956

## July 10

Griffith Stadium  
Washington (AL)  
NL: 7 AL: 3

The National League pounded out 11 hits, including home runs by Willie Mays and Stan Musial, to beat the American League 7-3 for its sixth win in seven games. The hero of the game was St. Louis Cardinals third baseman Ken Boyer, who went 3 for 5 and turned in three acrobatic fielding plays.

### LINE SCORE

NL	001	211	200	7	11	0
AL	000	003	000	3	11	0

# 1957

## July 9

Busch Stadium  
St. Louis (NL)  
AL: 6 NL: 5

An avalanche of votes from Cincinnati elected Reds to eight of the nine starting positions on the National League roster. The only non-Red was first baseman Stan Musial. Commissioner Ford Frick arbitrarily named Willie Mays and Hank Aaron to the starting team, but the National League still lost 6-5.

### LINE SCORE

AL	020	001	003	6	10	1
NL	000	000	203	5	9	1

# 1958

## July 8

Comiskey Park  
Chicago (AL)  
AL: 4 NL: 3

The Diamond Jubilee Game featured 13 hits—all of them singles—as the American League won, 4-3. The first of the 13 singles came on the first pitch, to Willie Mays, who later scored. But two American League singles in the sixth by Frank Malzone and Gil McDougald proved the difference for the American League, as it won, 4-3.

### LINE SCORE

NL	210	000	000	3	4	2
AL	110	011	00X	4	9	2

# 1959

## July 7

Forbes Field  
Pittsburgh (NL)  
NL: 5 AL: 4

The All-Star Game, a Midsummer fixture since 1933, became a double feature in 1959. Two games were scheduled to help the players' pension fund. The National League won the first game, 5-4, and later lost the second, 5-3, on three homers, as the American League maintained its edge in the series, 16-11.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	100	030	4	8	0
NL	100	000	22X	5	9	1

## August 3

Memorial Coliseum  
Los Angeles (NL)  
AL: 5 NL: 3

### LINE SCORE

AL	012	000	110	5	6	0
NL	100	010	100	3	6	3

# 1960

## July 11

Municipal Stadium  
Kansas City (AL)  
NL: 5 AL: 3

For the only year in All-Star history, one league won two All-Star Games. The National League beat the American League, 5-3, in the first game, and then won the second, 6-0, on three hits by Willie Mays, four home runs, and shutout pitching by six pitchers.

### LINE SCORE

NL	311	000	000	5	12	4
AL	000	001	020	3	6	1

## July 13

Yankee Stadium  
New York (AL)  
NL: 6 AL: 0

### LINE SCORE

NL	021	000	102	6	10	0
AL	000	000	000	0	8	0

# 1961

## July 11

Candlestick Park  
San Francisco (NL)  
AL: 5 NL: 4

Even though it out-hit the American League 11-4 in the first All-Star Game of 1961, the National League still had to come from behind in the bottom of the 10th to win, 5-4. History was made in the second game, as rain stopped play after nine innings, making it the only All-Star Game tie.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	001	002	1	4	4	2
NL	010	100	010	2	5	11	5

## July 31

Fenway Park  
Boston (AL)  
NL: 1 AL: 1

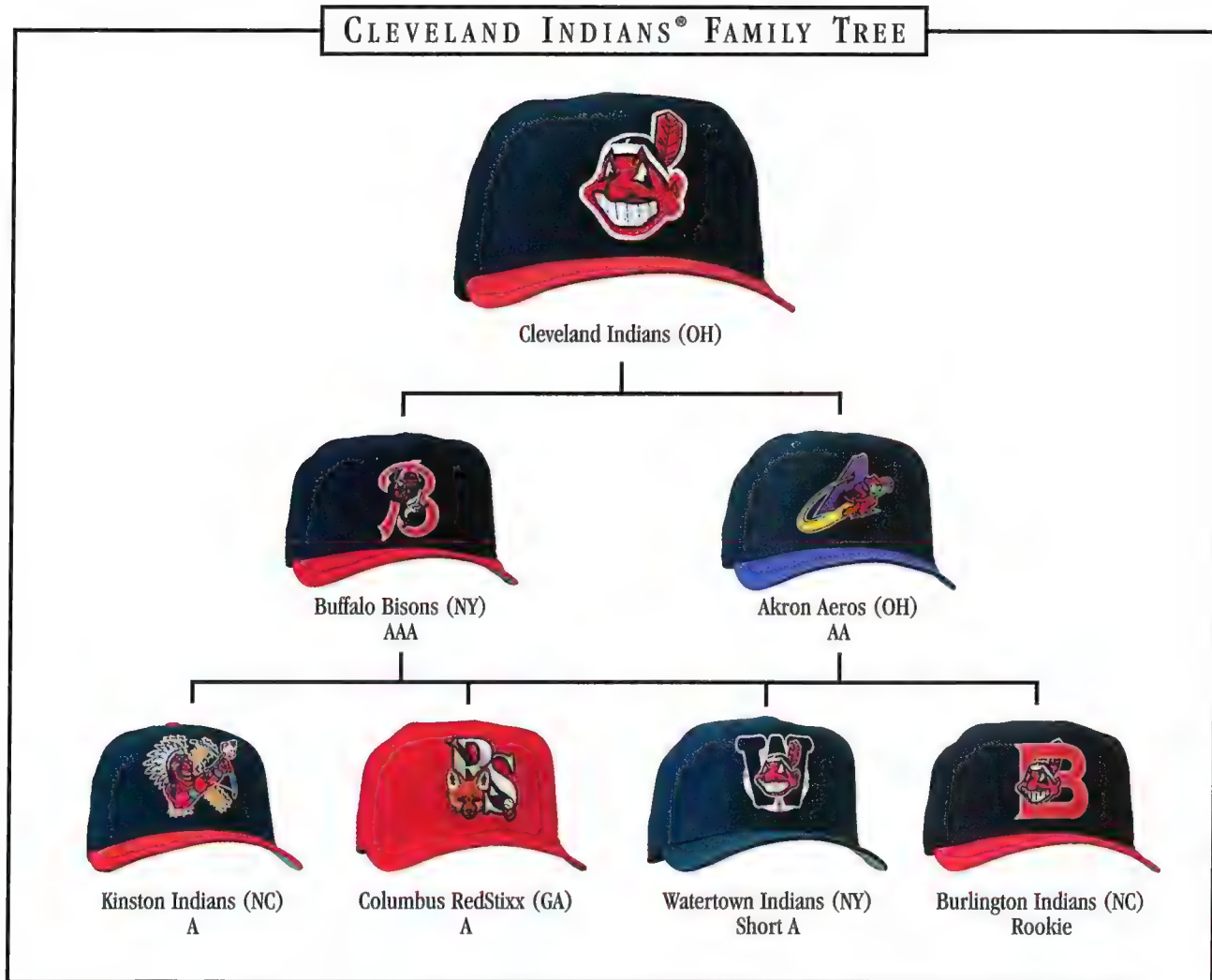
### LINE SCORE

NL	000	001	000	1	5	1
AL	100	000	000	1	4	0

MLB PHOTOS: PILLING (ROSE); NBLA (AARON)



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# 1962

## July 10

D.C.  
Stadium  
Washington (AL)

NL: 3 AL: 1

## July 30

Wrigley  
Field  
Chicago (NL)

AL: 9 NL: 4

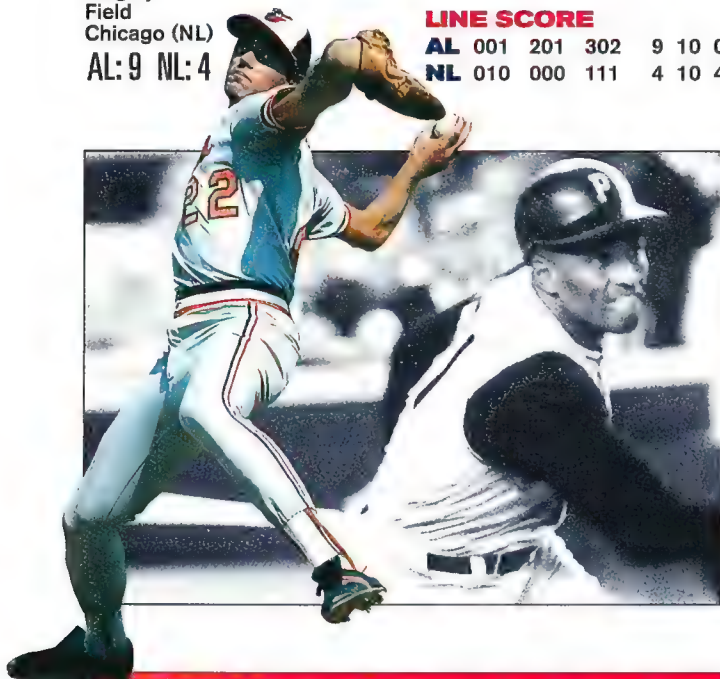
In the last year of two All-Star Games, the leagues traded wins, with the National League winning the first, 3-1, on three hits by Roberto Clemente. The American League used power to even the two-game set, with homers by Pete Runnels, Leon Wagner and Rocky Colavito, giving the Junior Circuit more than enough to win, 9-4.

### LINE SCORE

NL	000	002	010	3	8	0
AL	000	001	000	1	4	0

### LINE SCORE

AL	001	201	302	9	10	0
NL	010	000	111	4	10	4



# 1965

## July 13

Metropolitan  
Stadium  
Minnesota (AL)

NL: 6 AL: 5

With Juan Marichal facing the minimum of nine batters over the first three innings, the National League breezed to an early 5-0 lead. But the American League tied it on a pair of two-run homers by Dick McAuliffe and Harmon Killebrew. The National League broke the tie in the seventh when Willie Mays scored on a Ron Santo infield hit.

### LINE SCORE

NL	320	000	100	6	11	0
AL	000	140	000	5	8	0

# 1966

## July 12

Busch  
Stadium  
St. Louis (NL)

NL: 2 AL: 1

In a pitchers' battle highlighted by Denny McLain's three perfect innings, the National League finally triumphed, 2-1, on Maury Wills' single in the 10th inning.

### LINE SCORE

AL	010	000	000	0	1	6	0
NL	000	100	000	1	2	6	0

# 1967

## July 11

Anaheim  
Stadium  
California (AL)

NL: 2 AL: 1

The National League beat the American League, 2-1, in 15 innings, the longest game in All-Star history. All three runs came on homers, the first by National Leaguer Richie Allen, the second by Brooks Robinson, and the game-winner by Tony Perez.

### LINE SCORE

NL	010	000	000	000	001	2	9	0
AL	000	001	000	000	000	1	8	0

# 1963

## July 9

Municipal  
Stadium  
Cleveland (AL)

NL: 5 AL: 3

The National League used just six hits, all singles, to beat the American League 5-3. The star of the game was Willie Mays, who collected one hit, drove in two runs, scored twice, and stole two bases. Stan Musial set a record with his 24th All-Star appearance.

### LINE SCORE

NL	012	010	100	5	6	0
AL	012	000	000	3	11	1

# 1968

## July 9

Astrodome  
Houston (NL)

NL: 1 AL: 0

The 1968 All-Star Game reflected overpowering pitching. The two leagues combined for only eight hits and one run. The run—by the National League—was scored in the first inning on a single, an error, a wild pitch and a double play.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	000	000	0	3	1
NL	100	000	00X	1	5	0

# 1964

## July 7

Shea  
Stadium  
New York (NL)

NL: 7 AL: 4

The National League rallied for four runs in the bottom of the ninth to win 7-4. Willie Mays led off with a walk and promptly stole second. Orlando Cepeda drove in Mays and went to second on Joe Pepitone's throwing error. After Johnny Edwards was intentionally walked, Johnny Callison homered over the right-field wall.

### LINE SCORE

AL	100	002	100	4	9	1
NL	000	210	004	7	8	0

# 1969

## July 23

RFK Memorial  
Stadium  
Washington (AL)

NL: 9 AL: 3

Denny McLain, the American League's starting pitcher, arrived too late to start the game. By the time he entered the game in the fourth inning, the National League had eight runs, including two-run homers by Johnny Bench and Willie McCovey.

### LINE SCORE

NL	125	100	000	9	11	0
AL	011	100	000	3	6	2



# 1970

## July 14

Riverfront  
Stadium  
Cincinnati (NL)

In the bottom of the ninth, the National League erupted for three runs. In the 12th, Pete Rose singled with two outs and came home on Jim Hickman's single for the National League win.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	001	120	000	4	12	0
NL	000	000	103	001	5	10	0

NL: 5 AL: 4

# 1975

## July 15

County  
Stadium  
Milwaukee (AL)

The National League's 2-0 lead included homers by Steve Garvey and Jimmy Wynn, but Carl Yastrzemski tied it with a three-run homer in the sixth. In the ninth, American League outfielders misplayed two balls leading to three NL runs.

### LINE SCORE

NL	021	000	003	6	13	1
AL	000	003	000	3	10	1

NL: 6 AL: 3

# 1971

## July 13

Tiger  
Stadium  
Detroit (AL)

The American League snapped an eight-game losing streak with three two-run homers. The six home runs by six different players tied an All-Star Game record.

### LINE SCORE

NL	021	000	010	4	5	0
AL	004	002	00X	6	7	0

AL: 6 NL: 4

# 1976

## July 13

Veterans  
Stadium  
Philadelphia (NL)

The National League continued its dominance over the American League with its 13th win in the last 14 games. The NL coasted to a 7-1 win.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	100	000	1	5	0
NL	202	000	03X	7	10	0

NL: 7 AL: 1

# 1972

## July 25

Atlanta  
Stadium  
Atlanta (NL)

Cookie Rojas' two-run homer gave the American League a 3-2 lead going into the ninth. But the National League scored its third run, then won in the 10th as Joe Morgan drove in Nate Colbert.

### LINE SCORE

AL	001	000	020	0	3	6	0
NL	000	002	001	1	4	8	0

NL: 4 AL: 3

# 1977

## July 19

Yankee  
Stadium  
New York (AL)

Joe Morgan opened the game with a homer off Jim Palmer. Before the inning had ended, the National League had scored three more runs en route to a 7-5 win.

### LINE SCORE

NL	401	000	020	7	9	1
AL	000	002	102	5	8	0

NL: 7 AL: 5

# 1973

## July 24

Royals  
Stadium  
Kansas City (AL)

Bobby Bonds replaced starter Billy Williams in the fourth inning and proceeded to hit a two-run homer as the National League beat the American League, 7-1.

### LINE SCORE

NL	002	122	000	7	10	0
AL	010	000	000	1	5	0

NL: 7 AL: 1

# 1978

## July 11

San Diego  
Stadium  
San Diego (NL)

The National League got to American League starter Vida Blue for three runs in the bottom of the third and then scored four more off Rich Gossage in the eighth to win, 7-3.

### LINE SCORE

AL	201	000	000	3	8	1
NL	003	000	04X	7	10	0

NL: 7 AL: 3

# 1974

## July 23

Three Rivers  
Stadium  
Pittsburgh (NL)

American League President Lee MacPhail, with one AL victory in the last 11 All-Star Games, instructed Dick Williams to use the best talent available. But the National League still won, 7-2.

### LINE SCORE

AL	002	000	000	2	4	1
NL	010	210	12X	7	10	1

NL: 7 AL: 2

# 1979

## July 17

Seattle  
Kingdome  
Seattle (AL)

The New York Mets' Lee Mazzilli homered in his first All-Star at-bat to tie the score in the eighth inning. In the ninth, he walked to force in the winning run.

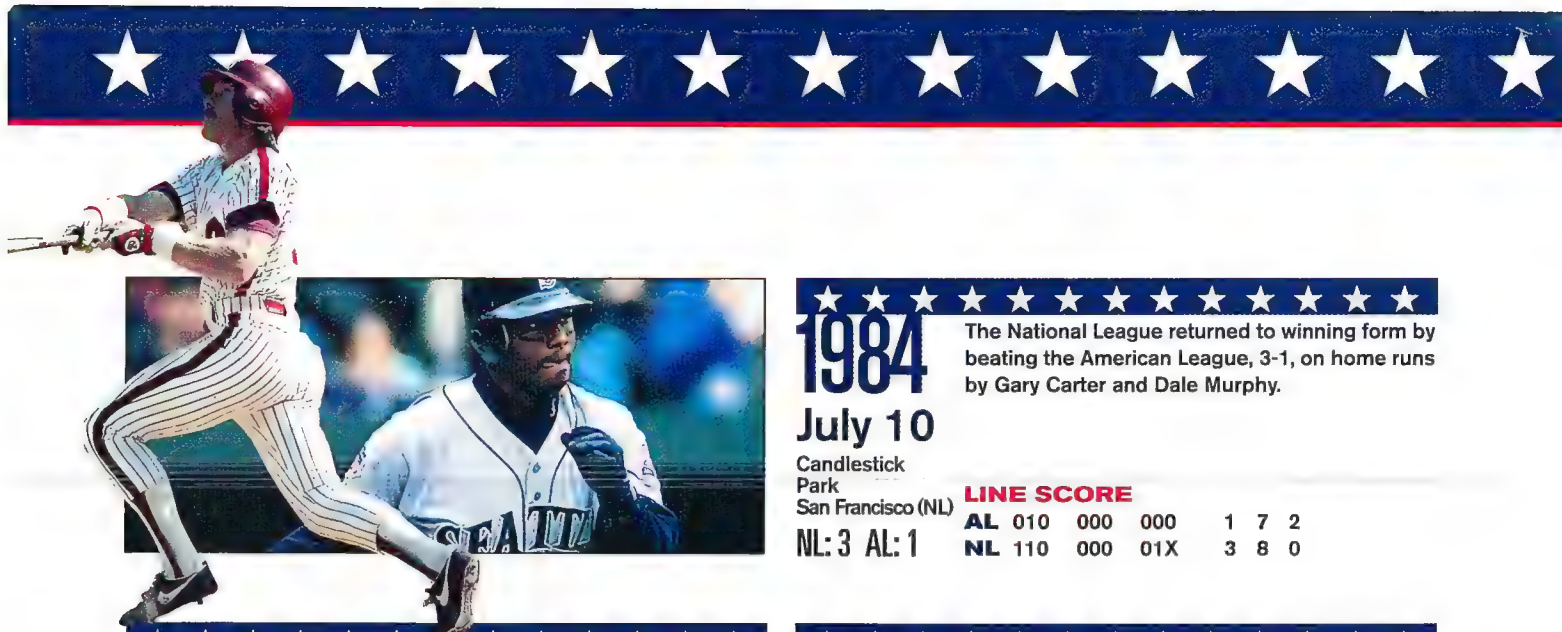
### LINE SCORE

NL	211	001	011	7	10	0
AL	302	001	000	6	10	0

NL: 7 AL: 6







# 1980

## July 8

Dodgers  
Stadium  
Los Angeles (NL)

NL: 4 AL: 2

After spotting the American League a 2-0 lead on Fred Lynn's two-run homer, the National League rallied on Ken Griffey's single and homer to win, 4-2.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	020	000	2	7	1
NL	000	012	10X	4	7	0

# 1981

## August 9

Municipal  
Stadium  
Cleveland (AL)

NL: 5 AL: 4

The largest crowd in All-Star Game history saw the National League score all of its runs on homers. The game winner was a two-run blast by Mike Schmidt in the top of the eighth.

### LINE SCORE

NL	000	011	120	5	9	1
AL	010	003	000	4	11	1

# 1982

## July 13

Olympic  
Stadium  
Montreal (NL)

NL: 4 AL: 1

This was the first All-Star Game played outside the United States. But the change in venue didn't help the American League as Dave Concepcion led the Nationals to a 4-1 win.

### LINE SCORE

AL	100	000	000	1	8	2
NL	021	001	00X	4	8	1

# 1983

## July 6

Comiskey  
Park  
Chicago (AL)

AL: 13 NL: 3

The American League celebrated the All-Star Game's 50th Anniversary by returning to the site of the first game, Comiskey Park. The American League won, 13-3.

### LINE SCORE

NL	100	110	000	3	8	3
AL	117	000	22X	13	15	2

# 1984

## July 10

Candlestick  
Park  
San Francisco (NL)

NL: 3 AL: 1

The National League returned to winning form by beating the American League, 3-1, on home runs by Gary Carter and Dale Murphy.

### LINE SCORE

AL	010	000	000	1	7	2
NL	110	000	01X	3	8	0

# 1985

## July 16

Metrodome  
Minnesota (AL)

NL: 6 AL: 1

The "Homerdome" was of little help to the American League as it managed but five scattered singles and one unearned run against five National League pitchers, losing 6-1.

### LINE SCORE

NL	011	020	002	6	9	1
AL	100	000	000	1	5	0

# 1986

## July 15

Astrodome  
Houston (NL)

AL: 3 NL: 2

Los Angeles lefthander Fernando Valenzuela fanned five consecutive batters to tie Carl Hubbell's 52-year-old All-Star record. The American League triumphed on two home runs.

### LINE SCORE

AL	020	000	100	3	5	0
NL	000	000	020	2	5	1

# 1987

## July 14

Alameda City  
Coliseum  
Oakland (AL)

NL: 2 AL: 0

Pitching dominated as the teams battled through 12 scoreless innings. But Tim Lincecum's triple to left-center in the 13th inning scored Ozzie Virgil and Hubie Brooks for a 2-0 National League win.

### LINE SCORE

NL	000	000	000	000	2	2	8	2
AL	000	000	000	000	0	0	6	1

# 1988

## July 12

Riverfront  
Stadium  
Cincinnati (NL)

AL: 2 NL: 1

Terry Steinbach's MVP performance led the American League to victory. Steinbach homered in his first All-Star at-bat in the third and drove in the game-winning run in the fourth.

### LINE SCORE

AL	001	100	000	2	6	2
NL	000	100	000	1	5	0



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# 1989

## July 11

Anaheim Stadium  
California (AL)

AL: 5 NL: 3

Bo Jackson led off the bottom of the first inning with a monstrous home run in his first All-Star at-bat and Wade Boggs followed with another homer to lead the American League to a 5-3 victory.

### LINE SCORE

NL	200	000	010	3	9	1
AL	212	000	00X	5	12	0

# 1992

## July 6

Jack Murphy Stadium  
San Diego (NL)

AL: 13 NL: 6

The American League chased starter Tom Glavine with four runs in the first inning and never looked back. The AL added four runs in the sixth and three in the eighth for its highest run total since 1983.

### LINE SCORE

AL	411	004	030	13	19	1
NL	000	001	032	6	12	1

# 1990

## July 10

Wrigley Field  
Chicago (NL)

AL: 2 NL: 0

Wrigley Field, the last bastion of daytime baseball, hosted its third All-Star Game and its first under lights. The American League won its third consecutive Midsummer Classic, 2-0.

### LINE SCORE

AL	000	000	200	2	7	0
NL	000	000	000	0	2	1

# 1993

## July 13

Oriole Park at Camden Yards  
Baltimore (AL)

AL: 9 NL: 3

After spotting the National League a 2-0 lead in the first inning, the American League roared back for a 9-3 victory. The American League scored three runs in both the fifth and sixth frames, while its pitchers sailed through the National League lineup.

### LINE SCORE

NL	200	001	000	3	7	2
AL	011	033	10X	9	11	0

# 1991

## July 9

Skydome  
Toronto (AL)

AL: 4 NL: 2

Cal Ripken's three-run home run in the bottom of the third inning was all the American League needed in the first All-Star Game in the Toronto Blue Jays' new stadium.

### LINE SCORE

NL	100	100	000	2	10	1
AL	003	000	10X	4	8	0

# 1994

## July 12

Three Rivers Stadium  
Pittsburgh (NL)

NL: 8 AL: 7

The National League finally snapped a six-game losing streak, beating the American League when Moises Alou's double scored Tony Gwynn in the 10th inning. A homer by Fred McGriff had tied it up for the NL in the ninth inning.

### LINE SCORE

AL	100	003	300	0	7	15	1
NL	103	001	002	1	8	12	0



# 1995

## July 11

The Ballpark in Arlington  
Texas (AL)

NL: 3 AL: 2

The American League jumped out to a 2-0 lead when Chicago's Frank Thomas crushed a John Smiley pitch for a two-run homer in the bottom of the fourth inning. But the National League made the most of its three hits—home runs by Craig Biggio, Mike Piazza and Jeff Conine—for the 3-2 triumph.

### LINE SCORE

NL	000	001	110	3	3	0
AL	000	200	000	2	8	0

# 1996

## July 9

Veterans Stadium  
Philadelphia (NL)

NL: 6 AL: 0

National League hurlers combined for the seventh shutout in All-Star Game history. Dodger catcher Mike Piazza blasted a home run and drove in two runs in the NL victory to earn MVP honors. Neither team issued a walk for the first time in Midsummer Classic history.

### LINE SCORE

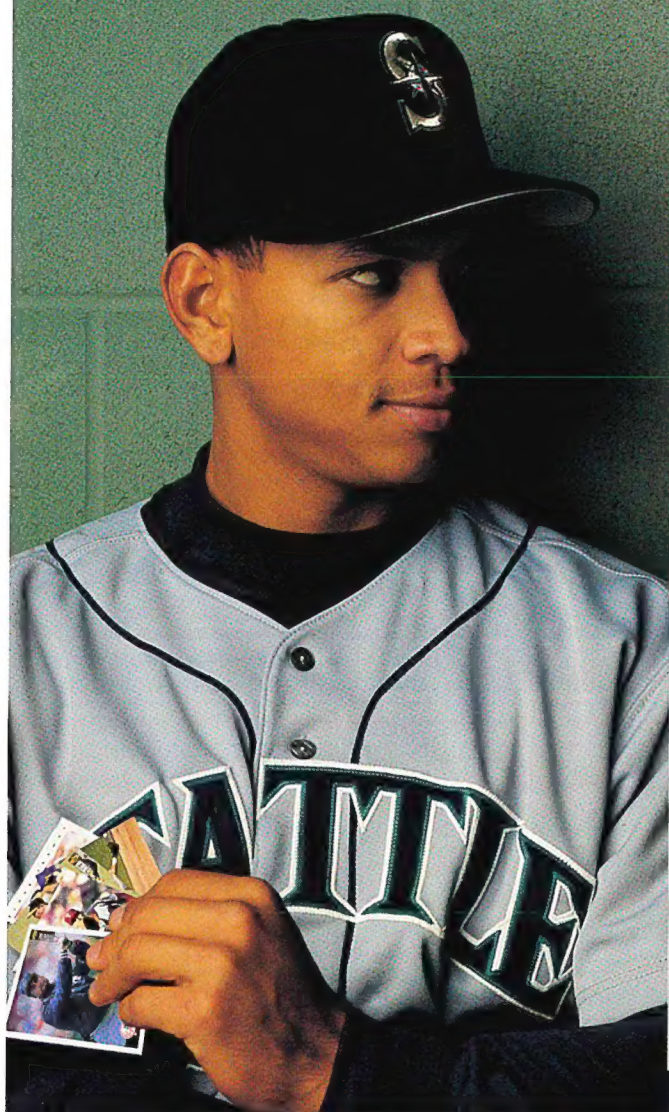
AL	000	000	000	0	7	0
NL	121	002	00X	6	12	1

MLB PHOTOS: GREEN (THOMAS); KEE (CAMINITI)



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# All-Star Game records

## INDIVIDUAL BATTING, BASERUNNING, GAME

### Most Runs, Game: 4

Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946.

### Most Runs Batted In, Game: 5

Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946;  
Al Rosen, AL, July 13, 1954.

### Most Hits, Game: 4

Joe Medwick, NL, July 7, 1937 (two singles, two doubles in five at-bats); Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946 (two singles, two home runs in four at-bats, also one base on balls); Carl Yastrzemski, AL, July 14, 1970 (three singles, one double in six at-bats), 12 innings.

### Most Times Reached First Base Safely, Game: 5

Charlie Gehringer, AL, July 10, 1934 (three base on balls, two singles); Phil Cavarretta, NL, July 11, 1944 (three bases on balls, one single, one triple); Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946 (one base on balls, two singles, two home runs).

### Most Two-Base Hits, Game: 2

Joe Medwick, NL, July 7, 1937; Al Simmons, AL, July 10, 1934; Ted Kluszewski, NL, July 10, 1956; Ernie Banks, NL, July 7, 1959; Barry Bonds, NL, July 13, 1993.

### Most Three-Base Hits, Game: 2

Rod Carew, AL, July 11, 1978.

### Most Home Runs, Game: 2

Arky Vaughan, NL, July 8, 1941 (consecutive); Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946; Al Rosen, AL, July 13, 1954 (consecutive); Willie McCovey, NL, July 23, 1969 (consecutive); Gary Carter, NL, August 9, 1981 (consecutive).

### Most Total Bases, Game: 10

Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946.

### Most Bases on Balls, Game: 3

Charlie Gehringer, AL, July 10, 1934; Phil Cavarretta, NL, July 11, 1944.

### Most Stolen Bases, Game: 2

Willie Mays, NL, July 9, 1963; Kelly Gruber, AL, July 10, 1990; Roberto Alomar, AL, July 14, 1992; Kenny Lofton, AL, July 9, 1996.

### Stealing Home, Game: 1

Harold "Pie" Traynor, NL, July 10, 1934 (front end of a double steal with Mel Ott in the fifth inning).

## INDIVIDUAL BATTING, BASERUNNING, FIELDING, CAREER

### Most Games: 24

Stan Musial, NL, 1943-63 (consecutive); Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (consecutive); Hank Aaron, NL, 1954-74 (23 games), AL, 1975 (one game).

### Most Games, Pinch-Hitter: 10

Stan Musial, NL

### Highest Batting Average, Five or More Games: .571

Ken Griffey, Jr., AL, 1990-1994 (8-14 in five games).

### Most At-Bats: 75

Willie Mays, NL (24 games).

### Most Runs: 20

Willie Mays, NL (24 games).

### Most Consecutive Games Batting Safely: 7

Mickey Mantle, AL, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 (second game), 1960 (second game); Joe Morgan, NL, 1970, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977. Dave Winfield, AL, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988.

### Most Two-Base Hits: 7

Dave Winfield, NL, 1977-80, AL, 1981-88 (12 games).

### Most Three-Base Hits: 3

Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (24 games); Brooks Robinson, AL, 1960-74 (18 games).

### Most Career Home Runs

Nine players have hit three or more home runs in All-Star Game competition: Stan Musial (24 games), 6; Fred Lynn (9 games), 4; Ted Williams (18 games), 4; Johnny Bench (12 games), 3; Gary Carter (8 games), 3; Rocky Colavito (9 games), 3; Harmon Killebrew (11 games), 3; Ralph Kiner (5 games), 3 (accomplished in consecutive All-Star Games, 1949-50-51); Willie Mays (24 games), 3.

### Most Consecutive Games Hitting Home Run: 3

Ralph Kiner, NL, 1949-1951.

### Most Total Bases: 40

Stan Musial, NL, 1943-63 (24 games); Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (24 games).

### Most Bases on Balls: 11

Ted Williams, AL, 1940-60 (18 games).

### Most Strikeouts: 17

Mickey Mantle, AL, 1953-68 (16 games).

### Most Stolen Bases: 6

Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (24 games).

### Most Fielding Positions Played: 5

Pete Rose, NL, 1965-82, 85, second base, left field, right field, third base, first base (16 games).

## CLUB BATTING, BASERUNNING, GAME

### Most Official At-Bats, Nine-Inning Game,

One Club: 44

AL, July 14, 1992.

### Most Official At-Bats, Nine-Inning Game,

Both Clubs: 83

AL (44), NL (39), July 14, 1992.

### Fewest Official At-Bats, Nine-Inning Game,

One Club: 27

July 9, 1968 (eight innings).

### Most Runs, Game, Both Clubs: 20

AL (11), NL (9), July 13, 1954.

### Most Hits, Game, One Club: 19

AL, July 14, 1992.

### Most Hits, Game, Both Clubs: 31

AL (17), NL (14), July 14, 1954;  
AL (19), NL (12), July 14, 1992.

### Back-to-Back Home Runs: 4

Al Rosen and Ray Boone, AL, July 13, 1954, third inning; Ted Williams and Mickey Mantle, AL, July 10, 1956, sixth inning; Steve Garvey and Jimmy Wynn, July 15, 1975, second inning; Bo Jackson and Wade Boggs, AL, July 11, 1989, first inning.

### Most Two-Base Hits, Game, Both Clubs: 7

AL (5), NL (2), July 12, 1949; AL (4), NL (3), July 13, 1993.

### Most Homes Runs, Inning, Both Clubs: 3

NL, 2 (Musial, Elliott), AL, 1 (Wertz), July 10, 1951, fourth inning; AL, 2 (Jackson, F. Robinson), NL, 1 (Aaron), July 13, 1971, third inning.

## INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

### Most Games Pitched: 8

Jim Bunning, AL, 1957, 1959 (first game), 1961 (2), 1962 (first game), 1963; NL, 1964, 1966; Don Drysdale, NL, 1959 (2), 1962 (first game), 1963, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968; Juan Marichal, NL, 1962 (2), 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1971; Tom Seaver, NL, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1981.

### Most Consecutive Games Pitched: 6

Ewell Blackwell, NL, 1946-51; Early Wynn, AL, 1955-59 (both games in 1959).

### Most Games Won: 3

Lefty Gomez, AL, 1933, 1935, 1937.

### Most Games Lost: 2

Mort Cooper, NL, 1942-43; Claude Passeau, NL, 1941, 1946; Whitey Ford, AL, 1959 (first game), 1960 (second game); Luis Tiant, AL, 1968, 1974; Catfish Hunter, AL, 1967, 1975; Dwight Gooden, NL, 1986, 1988.

### Most Innings Pitched, Total Games: 19 1/3

Don Drysdale, NL, eight games.

### Most Runs Allowed, Game: 7

Atlee Hammaker, NL, July 6, 1983.

### Most Hits Allowed, Game: 9

Tom Glavine, NL, July 14, 1992.

### Most Home Runs Allowed, Game: 3

Jim Palmer, AL, July 19, 1977.

### Most Bases on Balls, Game: 5

Bill Hallahan, NL, July 6, 1933, two innings.

### Most Strikeouts, Game: 6

Carl Hubbell, NL, July 10, 1934; Johnny Vander Meer, NL, July 13, 1943; Larry Jansen, NL, July 11, 1950; Ferguson Jenkins, NL, July 11, 1967.



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